THE

Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. VII.—NEW SERIES, No. 103.] LONDON: WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1847. [PRICE 6d

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ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

THE POLITICS OF CHRISTIANITY.

No. XIII.

ROOM FOR EXPANSION.

ONE more, and only one more, glance we propose to take at revealed truth, for the purpose of finding guidance to correct views respecting the STRUCTURE of civil government. Some principles have already been found in Christianity, as we think, serving to light our path to a sound conclusion. We have seen that State machinery, in order that it may work harmoniously with the genius of the Gospel, should be efficient for securing its avowed design—should concentrate upon its object the best and most wisely-adapted means within reach—should pay regard to man rather than to the circumstances in which he may chance to be placed—and should give fair opportunity for the exercise, by every citizen, of the intellectual and moral powers with which his Maker has endowed him. We now advance one step further. Our purpose is to show that Christianity, aiming as it does at human progress, requires that the structure of government should be such as to afford ample room for social expansion and improvement.

Holy writ may be regarded as the seed of all the moral changes which are destined to mark the advancement of society. As we have often affirmed, Christianity is a life rather than a form—a moving power rather than a mechanism for the application of power. Its few leading principles will go on disclosing wider and wider circles of duty and responsibility, as intellect is cultivated, science grows, and human passions are restrained and purified. All the aspects of revealed truth are onwards, upwards, and, in the most significant meaning of that term, heavenwards. Nature and Christianity are alike in this, that they both carry within themselves the promise and the germ of "better things to come." 'Tis even true physically that "the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain," waiting for something hereafter to be consummated. The tiny coral, the puny instrument in the hands of Infinite Wisdom for preparing new and yet ampler domains for the habitation of man—the several processes of decay, ending in reproduction of the same matter in a higher form—the connexion between a wise exertion of labour and salubrity of climate, fertility of soil, and average duration of human life—the geometrical ratio at which man's power over all the elements of nature increases, and according to which facilities for subduing the forces of matter to the purposes of mind are multiplied—these are but specimens of a law which pervades the visible universe of God, indicating that the structure of earth was originally framed with a view to a progressively improving hereafter, and that, as man becomes more thoroughly imbued with rightness of mind and of heart, the house which the Creator built and furnished for him may be cleansed, beautified, and rendered more commodious, thus adapting it still more nicely to the wants which civilization and religion invariably bring with them.

Divine revelation, however, far surpasses the laws of the material world in the characteristic just glanced at. It not merely admits of, but it invites and rewards, progress, both individual and social. Its truths and principles, hidden in the heart of a community, work until they assimilate all things to themselves. Christianity, as a system, is utterly incompatible with the spirit of oriental conversation—the feeling against change which cherishes with blind superstition the most hideous abuses, as one will sometimes see earwigs preserved in amber. It has no sympathy, however, with the policy which sets a chain of sentinels round about the walks of mind, to order it back whenever it discovers a wish to pass beyond certain generally recognised limits. Awe may be excited, doubtless, by the sight of glaciers, in which we look upon nature, as it were, smitten with catalepsy, and all outward movement arrested by the irresistible power of cold—but we prefer greatly, for every day life and enjoyment, the breathing, changing, multiform landscape, although some of the vicissitudes which affect it, render it anything but pleasurable to ourselves. So veneration may be awakened by what is old and almost immutable in pictures of society handed down to us in sacred writ—whilst the prevailing tendency of revelation is to prompt to unceasing progress, and, therefore, perpetual novelty.

In truth, although "Time" is styled "the great innovator," the description belongs more properly to Christianity. It came into the world to effect a change in the innermost centre of all human movements, and in the main-spring of all human activities. And right thoroughly has it done its work, hitherto—here quietly and gradually melting down prejudice—there, breaking in pieces, and scattering to the winds of oblivion, adamantine barriers to free intercourse between mind and mind—now, gently insinuating an influence which modifies the entire aspect of society—and anon, putting deep down in the chasms of custom and conventionalism, truths, the expansive force of which brings down unexpectedly huge masses of concrete selfishness. Everywhere it is making its plastic energy felt. It touches all things, and whatever it touches, it either destroys as an evil, or improves as a good. Science, philosophy, politics, morality, the constitution and habits of society, the common notions and sentiments of mankind—all confess, for they cannot conceal it, the power which Christianity brings to bear in the development of their latent resources.

Well then! we have, we think, sufficient foot-hold for maintaining the position that the mechanism of civil government—its constitutional form and framework—if constructed in harmony with the principles of revealed truth, must needs be such as readily to admit of expansion and improvement. Organic changes, it is certain, bring with them serious as well as numerous inconveniences. No people can afford a revolution every ten years. The maxim of Poor Richard may hold good in a political sense, "Three moves are as bad as a fire"—and the old proverb is applicable in the same direction, "A rolling stone gathers no moss." But all this only proves how important it is to mould the political constitution of a country upon an original model which will admit of easy enlargement, and close adaptation to all the outward circumstances of the people. Forms, as we have elsewhere intimated, exist but with a view to realities, and are not only useless, but positively obstructive and mischievous, when they cease to develop the sentiments they were intended to express. "The laws of the Medes and Persians," unbending and unchangeable, will harmonize well enough with an economy of stereotyped religion—but, under the "perfect law of liberty," it is necessary to provide suitable facilities for gradual and uninterrupted progress. National institutions should be such as grow up spontaneously from the national mind—or, if, like the snake, a people must periodically cast their skin, it is well that they should be able to do so without violent internal convulsions and spasmodic agonies. In a word, the *structure* of civil government—framing our judgment of it in accordance with the principles of the New Testament—ought to be perfectly compatible with uniform social progress—ought to give room to the community who live under it, for indefinite expansion and improvement.

THE ANTI-STATE-CHURCH MOVEMENT IN THE NORTH OF ENGLAND.—We hear that the Executive Committee of the Anti-state-church Association intend following up the movement so vigorously commenced in the West Riding, by sending a deputation to the East and North Ridings and to Durham and Northumberland. Mr. Edward Miall, and Mr. William Robinson, of Kettering, minister, will, we believe, form the deputation, and the towns already named for the holding of public meetings are Hull, Beverley, Scarborough, Malton, Whitby, Darlington, Durham, Newcastle, and Sunderland. The first meeting will probably be held on the 15th inst., at Hull, and the friends of the Association in the North will, we have no doubt, be on the alert to afford such assistance as will render this movement of the Committee a most important and successful one.

BRITISH ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION.

PUBLIC MEETING AT LEEDS.

(Abridged from the *Leeds Mercury*.)

A public meeting, promoted by this Association, which has for its object the liberation of religion from all State interference, was held in the Music-hall, on Wednesday evening last. There was a very large audience—the numbers, enthusiasm, and unanimity of which gave very striking indications of the recent progress of the principles of the Association amongst different classes of the community. Contrasted with former meetings for a similar object, it was most encouraging, and in numbers greatly superior. The Rev. W. Forster, of London (who supplied the place of the Rev. John Burnet), and Edward Miall, Esq., editor of the *Nonconformist*, attended as a deputation from the British Association.

The Rev. Dr. HAMILTON was unanimously called to the chair.

The CHAIRMAN, on rising to address the meeting, was enthusiastically cheered for some time. He said:—

Fellow-Christians and compatriots, when Philip Nye stood up in the Westminster Assembly, he cries, "I claim for every subject in these realms not only the right to maintain, but to propagate his opinions." We hold the same principles. We are wrong in adhering to our sentiments, if we are wrong in making them known [hear, hear]. Consistency requires us to be explicit. Our sentiments are grave and serious, and loud-voiced should be our proclamation of them. We have no controversy with any particular church. We attack not its standards, or its articles, or its hierarchy. We merely maintain that religion should be unfettered by the State [applause]. Directly I became a member of the Evangelical Alliance, I became a member of this organization [hear]. I thought they would travel on very well together—that I should have all moderation in the one, and I should have all boldness in the other [hear, hear]. And it must be recollected that if any of us be taunted that our membership in the Evangelical Alliance is inconsistent with the part we take in the Anti-state-church Association, it must be remembered that this Association attacks no party [hear, hear]. It is in controversy with no sect. We are entirely independent of all that is around us; and if there be any antagonism in our movements, the antagonism is forced upon us; it is not voluntarily and spontaneously adopted [applause]. For if any church in connexion with civil government were to be dis-established, as a church it would remain the same. The establishment of it is mere accident; but accident would be withdrawn, but the Church might go on in all its opinions, and all its decisions. But how is this to be done? Many look upon this as a most perplexing problem: how is there to be a dis-establishment of any and of all? I say, by working out the conviction in the public mind; and when it is thus convinced—not by brute force—not by material coercion—the public mind will have its sway. We do not innovate, let it be remembered. Ladies and gentlemen, we are for Christianity as it existed for three centuries. When in the year 312 of the Christian era it was established, it was a new circumstance; it was a novelty. It had never been heard of before; and all we ask is, to raise Christianity again to what it was as taught by Christ, and as it fell from the lips of his apostles [loud applause]. And do not be frightened this night by any phantoms of spectres. It will be said that your conduct is unconstitutional. But are the church or churches real parts or parcels of the law? No such thing—it is a mere visionary abstraction [hear, hear]. No religion forms a part, an integral element, of our constitution,—no particular form. Allow that Christianity in some sense in its spirit does operate through our jurisprudence, and is ever recognized by our institutions, there is no constitutional church. You might as well speak of a constitutional army, or a constitutional navy, and say, "Our admirable constitution in the army," or "Our venerable constitution in the navy," [hear, hear]. There is here a perfect incongruity of ideas—a solecism that ought never to be found in the mind or mouths of Britons [applause]. And be assured, ladies and gentlemen, you will not incur any of the liabilities of high treason in speaking out to-night, or in acting out to-night. We are under the shadow and safeguard of the constitution—a constitution that has existed with this religion and with that religion; and a constitution which is independent of all, and might exist still without any [loud applause]. We shall be told, however, that we ought to be satisfied by toleration. Now if any of my fellow-creatures can tell me why they more tolerate me than I tolerate them,—[applause]—why then I welcome the blessing of toleration thus given. But otherwise I shall ever say that toleration is the most intolerable word, and the most intolerable thing with which insult can barb itself [renewed cheers]. Many who differ from us, as members of the English Church to wit, are quite against the civil bonds imposed upon it. The Rev. Vicar of this parish is very scornful and ironical upon those whom he calls Establishmentarians, and he says there is no Established Church within these realms. "You cannot find an Act of Parliament," says he. Quoth he! I, however, might say, "that there is," it is tangible, it is visible, and especially when a man for church-rates is dragged to the loathsome and gloomy gaol [hear, hear, hear]. It looks very much like dominance, supre-

macy, establishment [hear, hear, hear]. We maintain this night distinct provinces between what is civil and what is religious. Do not blend them. Perform all your civil duties, perform all your religious duties—"render unto Cæsar the things which are Cæsar's, and unto God the things which are God's." Or as the poet versifies it—

"Let Cæsar's dues be ever paid
To Cæsar and his throne,
But consciences and souls were made
To be the Lord's alone." [applause].

The CHAIRMAN concluded by saying:—

And now one word as to the good morals and manners of this assembly [hear, hear, and laughter]. Let all your strength, let all your violence, be in your arguments [applause]. But let your words be tender and gentle. Remember that hard words do not convince. Hard words would only injure and betray our cause. Let there be no crimination of others' characters. Let there be no imputation upon others' motives. Allow all men to be as honest, though you cannot think them quite as enlightened, as yourselves [loud applause].

The Rev. THOMAS SCALES proposed the following resolution:—

That in the deliberate judgment of this meeting all civil establishments of religion are injurious to the interests of religion itself, and seriously objectionable on the following as well as other important grounds:—They invade the province and prerogative of duty, they violate the rights of conscience, they inflict wrong and disgrace upon all subjects of the land who feel compelled to separate from the favoured sect, and who have their own institutions to maintain; that therefore the well-being of society in our own country, and the true interests of both Church and State demand the dissolution of that alliance which now exists between them.

The rev. gentleman, in proposing the resolution, made a long and effective address. He pointed out that the separation of the Church and State must be the question of questions until it was safely and satisfactorily adjusted. The agitation had taken such firm hold of the public mind already that it could not be staved off. The question must now be put forward, and proposed fairly and openly, without anything like equivocation or compromise, at the bar of our common country, whether it is right and just that the interests of the many shall be sacrificed to the interests of the few; whether one sect shall continue to be exalted, and patronized, and endowed, that all other sects may be subservient and tributary to it? [applause]. After some further remarks on this theme, he continued:—"A gentleman once said to a clergyman in the neighbourhood of Birmingham, 'I understand, sir—and it is a manifestation of great bigotry on your part—that you object to bury Dissenters.' 'That,' replied the clergyman, 'is a great mistake—a very great mistake—I assure you I should like to bury them all' [laughter]. Now he (Mr. Scales) conceived that the most effectual way to bury Dissent, and to put an end to Dissenters, would be to separate the Church from the State, and he was not aware that any other serious evil besides could result from such severance. Speaking to the alleged destruction of visible Christianity, he referred to the past history of the Church, and contended that from the time of Constantine downwards, Church and State incorporation had been fatal to the interests of vital religion, and that its evils it would be scarcely possible to exaggerate (cheers). As to the destruction of the constitution, he observed that if our constitution had within itself no life, no vital energy, no sustaining principle but that which the Church had breathed into it, then, indeed, this might follow as a consequence. But he had not so read the constitution of his country. The language of Christ was, 'My kingdom is not of this world;' nor did he seek, nor did his apostles seek any alliance of the Church with the State" [applause].

EDWARD BAINES, jun., Esq., who was called on to second the resolution, was loudly and repeatedly cheered:—

He said he appeared there that night to discharge what he felt to be a solemn, and yet not a pleasing duty—not pleasing, because it brought him to express opinions differing strongly and decidedly from those of men whom he believed to be as honest as himself, and to be actuated by true religious principle—[hear, hear]—but a duty, notwithstanding, which he felt to be so clearly such, that he should be ashamed of himself if he were to shrink from its discharge [hear, hear] a duty which he felt perhaps rather especially imposed upon him by the circumstance to which the Chairman had alluded, and which pressed also with a weight upon his own mind—that of the dying thoughts of one dear to him as to the chairman, and to many in his presence—one of the best, one of the holiest, one of the most Christian-spirited pastors that ever lived [hear, hear]. It was one of the last public acts of the late Mr. Ely to prepare for the holding of this meeting; and on his death-bed he mentioned to him (Mr. Baines) as distinctly as he then could articulate, that he had been cut short in that which he had intended to do, and prevented from writing a letter in connexion with this movement, which it had been his intention to write [hear, hear] He felt, therefore, in some sense bound to take that place which Mr. Ely would have taken on this occasion, and, though with so much inferior power, to declare to them in the same spirit which he believed Mr. Ely would have declared his conscientious and calm conviction upon the subject which had gathered them together [hear, hear]. He lately stood upon this platform at a meeting of the Evangelical Alliance, when they had with them several Episcopalian ministers, and several Churchmen, whose piety and whose spirit they admired and loved; and it was his (Mr. Baines's) purpose, in compliance with the injunction which the chairman had given, not to utter one word this evening which he would not utter in the presence of those men, and with the most sincere desire to act upon their conscientious convictions, and upon their enlightened and Christian judgment. It was his firm conviction that State establishments of religion are not sanctioned by the New Testament—that they are directly adverse to the purity and prosperity of religion—that they are exceedingly unjust to all who differ from the sects that may be established—and, lastly, that they are very injurious to the interests of liberty and good government [applause]. It could not fail to strike the most unobservant spectator of things that the question of Church Establishments had, within the last few years, entirely changed its ground. The advocates of Church Establishments a few years ago, and throughout the whole of their previous history, defended them upon the ground that it was the duty of the Government, as the representative of the nation, to establish and support religion; and therefore to establish and support that alone which was true: and consequently that they were shut up to the support and establishment of but one form of religion. Pressed as they had been by argument that this was unjust to all others that differed from the Establishment, they had entirely shifted their ground, and now they had taken up this ground, which they had adopted from the practice and principles of Continental states—that they will endow all forms of religion—that they will support religion in every form in which it presents itself to them [hear, hear]. He thought he should be perfectly warranted in saying, that this is the leading principle, the avowed principle, of the present Prime Minister, Lord John Russell. He avowed it most distinctly with regard to the establishment of the Roman Catholic clergy in Ireland, in the year 1845, in his (Mr. Baines's) hearing in the House of Commons, and he has acted upon it in the most distinct manner in that measure of Government education which had been brought before the country. That measure was a measure avowedly for the support of religious education, and religious education only; and it was for the support of every form of religious education, whether true or false in the opinion of those who give it their support. It was, therefore, a distinct and clear recognition of the continental policy of supporting by the Government every form of religion. But then, pressed as the advocates of church establishments were on one side by the argument of injustice, so long as they adhered to the establishment of only one form of religion, they were pressed on the other side by a still more formidable difficulty when they adopted the plan of endowing every form of religion, and that was this—that they must necessarily endow and pay, promote and spread, error as much as truth [applause]. In that alternative they were placed: upon the horns of that dilemma they were impaled. They could not escape from it. He did not believe that the religious members of the Establishment wished to promote any system that would pay, and endow, and promote, religious error as well as religious truth. He believed they were pressed now by what they considered to be an absolute necessity. Allow him just to point out one fact to show how very striking, how very anomalous and absurd is the system that now exists. We have Church of Englandism established in England; Presbyterianism established in Scotland; the Roman Catholic religion established in Canada and in several other colonies; Unitarianism and Presbyterianism both paid by the State in the north of Ireland; Wesleyan Methodism paid by the State in Australia [loud cries of "Hear!"] and the West Indies; and it was a most melancholy fact, that in looking over that noble document, the Report of the Wesleyan Missionary Society for the past year, we saw raised and put down £115,000 for missionary purposes; and out of this, £113,000 was raised by voluntary contributions, but the whole was tainted by a miserable £2,000 of Government money [hear, hear, and loud applause]. He had said he did not believe that either the pious members of the Establishment, or the members of the Free Church of Scotland, or the members of the Church of Scotland, or those of the Wesleyan Methodists who approve of receiving Government money for religion and education, would submit to the obvious absurdity in which the endowment principle placed them—between injustice on one side and the propagation of error on the other side — but from the notion, that there was some absolute necessity for calling upon Government for national funds to support religion [hear, hear]. They had a rooted distrust of the voluntary principle as the means of supporting religion, which induced them to arrive at this conviction—that they must support national establishments. And the main object that he had to-night, was to discuss that one question, Is the voluntary principle competent for the support of religion, or is it not [hear, hear]? His friend, Mr. Miall [great applause], would, with abundantly more force than he could, discuss perhaps every part of this question; but he knew Mr. Miall would mainly discuss those great principles of the question on which his comprehensive mind delighted to dwell, and on which the light and force of that mind poured conviction and evidence [hear, hear]. But his own object before them this evening —after the few observations he had made—was to discuss this question, and he would not do it at great length, but by a few facts which he thought would be convincing—whether the voluntary principle was competent for its work or not.

[Mr. Baines then entered into various important statistical details on this subject; but as we have quoted them elsewhere in a more connected form, it is unnecessary to give this portion of his speech. In conclusion, he said:—]

He had now done with his facts, and he appealed to their judgment whether those facts did not show that there was a power in that principle to which Christ committed the maintenance and extension of his religion in the world fully adequate for the purpose for which he designed it; and if it was adequate, then he (Mr. Baines) must say that the last ground was taken from under the advocates of State establishments, and that it must be admitted that those establishments were not only unjust, and exposed to the objection that they disseminate error as well as truth, but that they were as unnecessary as they were unjust and objectionable [loud applause].

The Rev. WILLIAM FORSTER, of London, one of the deputation, came forward to support the resolution, and was received with loud applause. He said:—

Nothing but the sternest necessity would have extorted from him the consent, at a few hours' notice, to have been launched that day from London to Leeds, to attend such a meeting as that, and to represent such a man as the Rev. John Burnet. The man who never disappoints public meetings had disappointed them that night. The Rev. John Burnet was no ordinary man; and there had been no patriotic movement, no philanthropic movement, for the last thirty years, but it had found in him an advocate in its behalf. Serious indeed would have been his absence had the great cause which brought them together that night depended on what man could say—if it did not depend upon the infinite worth of the cause itself, and its intrinsic truth [applause]. If he (Mr. Forster) had not thought so, he would not, he dare not have shown his face in their town that night. When he was pressed to attend that night, he said, "The people of Leeds, who have spoken upon this subject, who have lived to this subject, require not such authority as mine; they need not an obscure person like me to come to plead this cause." But when he was told that it was a courtesy to come, he came at once [hear, hear]. He felt that it was not necessary to take up the time of the meeting in order to secure from it (from what he had already seen) a courteous and respectful hearing, stranger though he was. Surely in a question such as that which called them together, which rose in mountain magnitude before them, must exist an interest sufficiently deep in every mind to reduce every man into insignificance before it—a question which had in it those growing powers and those vital energies which will command men of all ranks and all creeds to contribute to its final triumph [cheers]—a question the vital importance of which was seen in the tremor which its very onset was sending through the ranks of the friends of church establishments, to bring forward an amount of opposition to them and their cause, thus showing the vast interests involved in it. And he saw its importance in the caution with which far-seeing men enter upon it; for they foresaw that it was a struggle which will call for the utmost activity they can command—a struggle which will require them to train up their children to carry it on like themselves—a struggle which they never can honourably abandon until, by constitutional means, they have carried the citadel, and from that citadel, as with a clap of thunder, announced the triumph to the priest-ridden nations of Christendom [loud applause]. They had said that this was the time when this question must be agitated. Providence seemed to be clearing the area where this question was to be brought forward in all its magnitude and authority. Political parties were being broken up; Dissenters were being separated from that party which had been using them but as instruments for their own purposes; the great question of freedom for the bread of life had been settled, so that this question may be agitated from end to end of the country: the stage was now cleared before them, that they might give battle to church establishments from end to end of the land. Let him (having been a member of the Anti-state-church Association from the beginning) say a word upon the principles which this question involved. He would speak with all that charity with which he could afford to speak, considering the excellent position in which the truth of their cause had placed them [hear, hear]. This question was of interest to all classes and all creeds; its principle involved the separation or aloofment of all Dissenters; it was kneaded into the very walls of their meeting-houses; it had a vehicle in all their voices and prayers; it was plastic within, and dwelt among, all the associations which they had organized or supported; it stood in most intimate relation to the well-being of every man, as a responsible being, in this land [hear, hear, and cheers]. It was a principle which concerned the Quaker, the Presbyterian, the Episcopalian, and every sect and class of Nonconformists alike; it concerned Dr. Hook as much as it concerned Dr. Hamilton [applause]; it concerned Mr. Gladstone, the representative of Oxford University, as much as it concerned Mr. Baines, of Leeds; it concerned Mr. Macaulay, the rejected of Edinburgh [cheers], as much as it concerned Mr. Miall, the destined representative of Halifax [loud and reiterated cheers]. It was no personal or sectarian principle; it was the inalienable right of every man to exercise his judgment upon one of the most important principles which can be set before him, whether he be a pauper in his rags or a peer of the realm [applause]. It was as necessary to the well-being of those who would repudiate it, cast it out, and call down the fire of heaven that it might be consumed, as to those who were willing to minister to it in sackcloth and ashes, and to follow it to death [hear, hear]. Such was the universality of this principle, which they had been given by God. But not only was it a home question; it was a great colonial question; it was a question which affected all our colonies [hear, hear]. We had spent a vast amount of money and men upon the colonies, but very little mind [hear, hear]. The very relation of our colonies to the mother country tended to this—that every establishment approved of at home was established abroad; it was the child submitting to the mother, weakness submitting to strength. There were efforts being made at the present moment in this country itself to establish religion in our colonies, efforts of the most concentrated and earnest form. We saw, through the telescopic medium of colonial despatches and colonial legislation, the nebulous beginnings of a new establishment, which were expected to revolve themselves into substance and shape, and become the serene and sunny habitations of archbishops, bishops, rectors, schoolmasters, schoolmistresses, and all that order of beings that constitute the world of priests. Now if they would not cramp the energies of these rising empires by an element which would be to them an element bringing the curse of evil and discord, which they will struggle with and writhe under, like a sleeper with the night-mare [applause], they must themselves arouse at home —they must throw off the incubus upon their own heaving breast, and break the fetters now galling their own limbs—and then, and not till then, would their colonies be safe—then would the fetters forging for them be cast into the depths of the ocean, or kept as sacred mementoes in their sanctuaries of freedom of the dangers which they had escaped [loud cheering]. It was not only a spiritual, but a great social question. He admitted that it was a great spiritual question: the man should be a devout man to comprehend it—to conceive it—to feel its enthusiasm in his breast, and to feel its power; but it had a phase which produced social effects of which every man could judge by its fruits. It was a social question, when it gave the legislature power to make or mar our minds—to fashion the creeds of the people—to fix the number and stipends of our baronial bishops—to create those ecclesiastical authorities which shall knock down the temple of men's consciences or build it up; to give one party power over the spiritual education and training of all [applause]. It was giving power to injure society in all its departments—to wring its very core—to lacerate its very heart. It was to take religion out of the hands and out of the hearts of the people, for whom the Government legislate in a matter which should be peculiar and sacred to the conscience of every man [cheers]. It was to prevent the circulation of these ideas, which should be as intact as the individual while he stands before his God; it was to prevent the formation of those habits which should be the basis of the nation's prosperity; it was to chafe and fret those things which are most dear to the country; and in this way the whole social system would be unnerved [cheers.] If ever England was to be so good, so great, so strong as she ought to be, it must be by the establishment of religion—not the Established Church—being swept from the statute-book, and the Church Establishment becoming as though such statutes had never been. But, let the men of Leeds remember, this was a great work, and like every great work on earth, the condition was that they should give great labour to attain its success [hear, hear]. But surely the men of this country who have built up the voluntary principle in all its grandeur, to teach every nation and every land—and have not only done this, but have reformed their own institutions—the men of this country are surely able to do this [loud applause]. To men truly brave and good-hearted, there was something in danger and difficulty which had a charm which ease and prosperity could not give. They had glorious historic memories of what had been done in days past; and to one only of those would he refer them. Martin Luther was a poor man's son; and when at college he had to sing carols to obtain a little money to educate himself. He was the drudge-monk of the monastery; but he got hold of the Bible, and as he read, inspiration came into his soul, and from that day he was set apart from the system in which he had been brought up. People might have said to him—"Martin Luther, you are alone; let these things pass from your mind, or let them be hidden therein: if you move an inch you are undone" [hear, hear]. If he had such advice as this, he did not act upon it. With his soul full of religion—with an inflexible purpose to do that which was right—to do that in the sight of men which his heart told him was right in the sight of God—that man did go out alone to fight and struggle with papal power—a power which had shaken thrones, overawed kings, raised itself in the temple of God above all else on earth; above all this ecclesiastical power—above all political power of the day, did this man soar: single-handed he grappled with them, and the Reformation was the result. They wanted the faith to witness the power and the prowess of that poor monk who shook the world to its centre. They wanted faith, faith, faith: faith in the promise of their great Master, Jesus Christ—faith in the sanctified humanity—the

faith of the grain of mustard-seed; and then would they say to the upas tree of Establishments, however wide-spread its branches, "Be thou plucked up by the roots [loud applause]—and cast into the depths of the sea;" and it shall obey [renewed plaudits]. The time was coming when the great Babel of mixed secular and religious power, which had been raised to tyrannize over the consciences of men, shall be destroyed—when the Gabriel of God shall take it and cast it into the sea, to be no more seen. He saw it coming—in apocalyptic vision he saw it—

"In Gabriel's hand, a mighty stone
Lies, a fair type of Babylon;
Prophets rejoice, and all ye saints,
God shall avenge your long complaints.
He said—and dreadful as he stood—
He sank the mill-stone in the flood—
'Thus terribly shall Babel fall—
Thus, and no more be found at all,'"

[Loud and long-continued applause].

The resolution was adopted unanimously.

The Rev. R. Brewer (Baptist), then briefly moved the second resolution:—

That it becomes all who wish well to their country and to the cause of religion and morality, of liberty and social harmony and happiness, to seek the removal of an evil so serious as the national Church Establishment of these realms: but, in prosecuting this vast and legitimate object, the present meeting solemnly declares its conviction that the object should be pursued, and its own deliberate resolve to pursue it, only by such means as are constitutional and pacific.

Henry Rawson, Esq., seconded the resolution.

Edward Miall, Esq., rose to support the resolution, and was received with often repeated cheers. He said:—

Fellow Christians and countrymen, in the spring of the present year "somebody from Leeds" came up to London [laughter] to call upon all true-hearted Nonconformists to assert a great principle. Somebody from Leeds, consequently, brought himself and his fellow Nonconformists here under a kind of obligation to reciprocate aid. When we come hither to assert the same principle, whether in education or religion, the object we have in view is just one and the same [hear, hear]. Every argument which Mr. Baines has wielded with so much power for voluntary education tells with equal force in favour of voluntary Christianity; and to my own mind and judgment every argument telling in favour of voluntary religion tells equally in favour of voluntary education [applause]. We therefore come to shake hands together over the principles we have asserted in the resolution just passed. I have never felt my own spirit more earnest or more chastened in reference to this great question than I have done this evening [hear, hear]. I have contemplated the question under various lights, and it has stirred in me, I need scarcely say, deep emotion. But this evening one seems to have been taken to the very confines of eternity, that we may view this principle and this movement by the light of the Invisible—of the Everlasting; and from Heaven itself, we hear a voice speaking to us, not to impede our course or stop us in our career, but to cheer us forward, and to tell us that this is associated with the spirit and the extension of true Christianity over the whole world. The question has indeed often appeared to my mind to be one of the deepest importance which can engage the attention of men in the present day. The few steps which I may have taken in reference to it, have been dictated entirely by the views which I entertain respecting its religious and spiritual importance. I do hold, indeed, that civil liberty is very intimately associated with the settlement of this question, and I feel consequently an increase of interest in carrying forward the movement which we come now to uphold before you in Leeds. I am not—I never was—insensible to the political wants of my fellow-men [applause]—and I hope the day will never arrive when I shall be [applause]—and because I believe that their political wants will be largely ministered to by the success of this movement, I take in it a livelier interest than otherwise perhaps I should [hear, hear]. But I am not ashamed to own, that my interest in this question has been an interest growing out almost exclusively of its religious aspects. That Christianity, the remedy which God in his infinite mercy provided for the moral woes of mankind—that Christianity which is able to elevate our race, and to prepare us for everlasting enjoyment of the highest and most spiritual kind—that Christianity, the only power capable of coping with the evils that are abroad in society, and putting them effectually down, should be taken by the powers of this world, and made subservient to the accomplishment of mere political and selfish purposes—I hold to be a wrong to humanity so great, so deep, that every man who has within him the feelings of a man, the heart of a patriot—to say nothing of the sympathies and the principles of the Christian—ought to stand up in the face of all obloquy and scorn, and protest against it as a wrong done to society [cheers]. I very much fear that the tendency in the present day has been to throw a slight upon the question, more especially upon the voluntary principle, the facts connected with which have been so ably stated in the former part of this evening. I do not think that those who are frequently speaking about the voluntary principle so glibly and flippantly, as though the voluntary principle were a thing that ought to hide its face in some corner of the world and never show itself among men and among philosophers [hear, hear]; I do not think they know any thing about what they speak, or understand what they affirm. The voluntary principle seems to me only one of those phases by which we may impress the power of religion—it is but Christianity in the heart making itself apparent in the conduct. It is but the principle which Christ's truth has put in us, developing itself in our practice, and especially in that practice as it relates to our fellow men in the world. Why, if the voluntary principle be not the principle upon which all true religion should proceed, then it seems to me that there is nothing important in religion at all. I would give up Christianity itself if it is to be compulsory [hear, hear]. I do not believe that it could, under such circumstances, effect those purifying, elevating purposes which I think it is intended to accomplish in this world; and assuredly, when I hear not merely the foes of the voluntary principle, but some of its friends, some of those whom I recognise as its friends, as having acted in its behalf in reference especially to religoin—when I witness them anxious to cast something like reflection and imputation upon it, as incapable of bringing these and those results, I ask myself, "Is it possible these men can understand what it is they do; that they see the important consequences that will flow from their endeavours?" They say the voluntary principle has failed. They say that in reference especially to education. Why, if the voluntary principle has failed in reference to any one great end which Christianity should pursue, it fails altogether [hear, hear]; and if we go about seeking evidences in reports and treasurers' balances and deficiencies—local it may be and temporary—in order that we may put the voluntary principle at a disadvantage on the educational question, we are but furnishing our adversaries with the means of opposing us, and opposing us logically and correctly, when we argue against the establishment of religion [hear, hear]. I have some faith in the voluntary principle notwithstanding. I believe that almost all the good that is done in this world—all the active, positive good—all that is not merely negative—all that does prevent evil—all is done by the voluntary principle [applause]. It must be so; from the very nature of things, it must be so; from the constitution of our own mind it must be so; and when people, consequently, are casting their flippant sneers at the voluntary principle as incapable of accomplishing these and those results, I would have them remember that they are sneering at the power of great truths to enter into the hearts of men and mould their conduct. If this method fails to save and sanctify the world, then what will the world's salvation and sanctification be worth which must be produced by the outward pressure of the compulsory system? I believe it is of the utmost importance that we should stand by this principle in the present time. We must go on, or we must go back [hear, hear]. The establishment question cannot remain in its present state. Political affairs are such that ecclesiastical questions must come up before the Legislature time after time, even when their presence is most inconvenient. Ireland cannot be pacified or settled until the anomaly and injustice of her Church establishment be entirely swept away [hear, hear]. Ireland is clamorous for something to be done in her behalf, and nothing can be done without settling that one great question of Church and State [applause]. It must consequently come up for discussion. But were it otherwise with regard to Ireland, there are numerous aspects of public affairs which reflect as it were this question upon the minds of statesmen. The relationship of religion to civil authority is a problem that must be solved in this our day [hear, hear]. Providence seems to have determined that we shall not evade it. We may turn our backs upon it, but the question will still force us. Go where we will, do what we will, let us proceed by whatever method we may in order to get rid of the difficulties about us, this question still comes up and presses itself, not merely upon the minds of Nonconformists, but upon the consciences of evangelical Churchmen—aye, and upon the minds also of the statesmen of the day [hear, hear]. So that, under whatever circumstances we may be placed, if we take an interest in anything that is public, we are sure to have this question up for discussion. Then it behoves us to take our place; for, observe the importance of our acting just now [hear, hear]. The whole question has already been alluded to. The whole question of establishments is shifting its basis. The injustice of patronizing only one sect with Government money and Government power is so apparent to the community, that in this day of light, of railroads, and of penny postage, it is found to be utterly impossible to maintain much longer the anomaly in our midst [applause]. The design, consequently, is to make all persons seemingly interested in partaking of the spoil. All are to be made to contribute to the support of religion; and all—in consequence of their receiving, as it seems, gifts from the Government—are to be brought, through the instrumentality of teachers, under the authority and power of Government. Oh, men of Leeds! if you would retain your manliness and independence, never touch a bribe from the State [applause], neither for your education nor for your religion. You give the money before it comes back to you [hear, hear]. Let not the money go, except as your own independent dictates may determine. You do but furnish a handle of power to the Government to misuse your other interests, by communicating to them a power to meddle with the affairs of the mind, with which they have nothing whatever to do [hear, hear]. I feel it is of the utmost importance we should be faithful just now, especially because, as remarked by Mr. Forster, if we now shrink from our post, the evil will be perpetuated through many generations in other parts of the world. We ought to feel ourselves intimately connected with everything that is human. The sea, the ocean which separates us from our fellow-men, and especially from our fellow-countrymen who go forth from our shores, ought not to destroy the sympathies which bind us to them. They go forth in order to the accomplishment of temporal purposes—sometimes in order that they may evade and escape evils, both temporal and spiritual, which they meet with here. Are we to send this monstrous wrong after them [hear, hear]? Ought we to stand by and see the Government throwing broad-cast the seeds of so much that has proved, in our experience, an impediment to true religion upon the face of colonial society? We are bound, surely, in duty to Jesus Christ, in duty to our attachment to his kingdom, and in duty to our fellow-men, to take our position now [hear, hear]. And I believe, if we do take our position firmly, the thing will soon be accomplished. Talk not about the power of the aristocracy and the wealth of the Establishment. There is a power in truth, earnestly urged, that will soon laugh to scorn all the opposition which worldly sagacity and worldly craft may bring to oppose it [applause]. Give me but a truth vital with the life and spirit of heaven in it, and I will go with that truth throughout the whole world, confident that, by the foolishness of preaching, I can smite down all moral wrong. With the promises of God himself—we believe his mind is with us in the end which we seek to attain,—with the word of the everlasting Gospel to urge upon the consciences of those to whom we address ourselves,—and with this law already attained in our favour, that error and falsehood and wrong are associated throughout the universe with cowardice,—we cannot stand up and proclaim one really true, great, everlasting, immutable principle, without striking dismay into the hearts of those who are opposed to it [loud applause]. Therefore, though the majority may be great against us in the Legislature, and though, in holding forth these truths, it might seem to be an almost hopeless task, I have still faith that wherever truth is earnestly and faithfully presented to the mind of man, even the most unenlightened and the most prejudiced, dark though it be as the House of Commons itself [loud applause], that truth will command respect, will find attention, will claim for itself regard, will ultimately bring votes, and effect its own complete establishment throughout the country. We have nothing to do but to go forward. My heart swells with delight that we are now going hand in hand with Leeds. I know that the settlement of the question in reference to either of the aspects under which the principle presents itself—the settlement of one involves practically the settlement of the other. All that we are doing we are doing for Mr. Baines [hear, hear]. All that he is doing he is doing for us [hear, hear]. We, therefore, feel an entire confidence in the ultimate success of a great question, and we look forward with some delightful anticipations to the day when Truth shall be emancipated from the fetters in which worldly men have placed her—when the Church of the living Redeemer shall go forth in all her simplicity and purity to her appropriate work, to charm, not to drive—to charm the nation to the feet of her Divine Master [loud applause].

The resolution was adopted unanimously.

The Rev. W. Hudswell (Independent), next moved the formation of a local committee to carry out the plans of the association in the borough of Leeds. He anticipated that the time is not far distant when large numbers of pious and devout clergymen, and laymen too, of the Church, would connect themselves with this Association [hear, hear]. It was with Christian feelings and love for pure religion that he for one connected himself with the Anti-state-church Association, and he believed that were its objects accomplished, it would more rapidly spread and advance religion within the Episcopal Church itself.

James Richardson, Esq., seconded the resolution in a stirring address, in the course of which he was often loudly cheered.

The resolution was here put and unanimously adopted.

The Rev. J. H. Morgan, of Holbeck, proposed the thanks of the meeting to the Rev. W. Forster, and Edward Miall, Esq.

The Rev. J. Tunnicliffe seconded the resolution, and it was unanimously adopted.

Edward Miall, Esq., acknowledged the resolution, and took occasion to urge as the best mode of giving the deputation thanks that they should become members of the Association. He also mentioned a fact which he wished to go through the West Riding, namely, that at the meeting in London on the preceding Thursday, a gentleman offered £50 to the Association, if fifty persons could be found to join with him in giving the same amount. One or two persons had already come forward, and they hoped to find fifty among the Nonconformists in the country. Money had a very strong influence both upon the minds of the Government, and upon the minds of waverers throughout the land. He simply threw it out as a fact, and a chance for those who wished to embrace a chance to do great good to this Association [hear, hear]. In conclusion he moved a vote of thanks to Dr. Hamilton for his kindness in presiding.

The Rev. W. Forster seconded the resolution, and it was adopted by acclamation.

MEETING AT BRADFORD.

On Thursday evening, a meeting of the inhabitants of Bradford, favourable to the principles of the British Anti-state-church Association, was held in the Temperance-hall in that town. The meeting was called for the purpose of hearing an explanation of the principles and objects of the above society, and was numerously and respectably attended; and judging from the enthusiastic reception which was given to Edward Miall, Esq., and the Rev. W. Forster, who were present as a deputation from the Society in London, and the deep feeling of interest with which the addresses of these gentlemen were listened to, it is evident that the principles of Nonconformity are deeply interwoven in the feelings of the inhabitants of that town.

Mr. Alderman Forbes was called to the chair, and amongst the gentlemen upon the platform we noticed the Rev. Dr. Godwin, P. K. Holden, Esq., Mr. Alderman Salt, Rev. J. G. Miall, Rev. Dr. Acworth, Rev. T. Pottinger, Rev. W. Scott, and Messrs. W. Head and John Glover.

The Chairman, in opening the proceedings, first read the notice convening the meeting, and then said:—

I am sure that it causes me great pain, as I have no doubt it does every one present, to find that our estimable friend, the Rev. Mr. Burnet, is prevented from attending this evening owing to a severe attack of illness. The disappointment which you must all feel will be, however, considerably mitigated when I inform you that we have a gentleman present who is well able to supply the place of Mr. Burnet—I mean the Rev. Mr. Forster, of London—who will address you to-night along with Mr. Miall, the other gentleman comprising the deputation [hear, hear]. I believe that this is the first time that the establishment of religion by the State has been brought before a public meeting of the inhabitants of Bradford—at all events, I feel assured that it has never been brought before you in so clear, lucid, and prominent a manner as I expect it will this evening [applause]. As Dissenters we have, of course, in our respective chapels, heard addresses from time to time upon the subject; but we meet to-night under different circumstances—we meet for the purpose of giving utterance to a public expression of opinion against a system which we consider fraught with consequences of the most dangerour description [applause]. I feel perfectly aware that in occupying the position of Chairman of this meeing, I expose myself to the misrepresentation, and even the misconstruction of some of my esteemed Episcopalian friends, with respect to the motives by which I am actuated. Permit me to observe that this is not to me a new question. For years past I have read much upon the subject—I have thought upon the subject, and I have felt deeply upon the subject [applause]—and in occupying the position which I now hold, and in endeavouring, as far as my humble capacity will permit, to carry out the objects contemplated by the Anti-state-church Association, I can assure you—and if there be any Episcopalians present, I would assure them—that I have no intention or desire to injure the efficiency of that Church or to interfere with its mode of government; but I feel that by endeavouring to sever the Church from the State, I am acting as one of its best and truest friends. I have the privilege of being very intimate with a number of esteemed and valued clergymen of the Church of England; I am also upon terms of friendship with many of the laity, whom I highly esteem for their honourable and excellent character, and I have upon various occasions discussed this subject with them in a friendly spirit. The result of this intercourse, and of these discussions, fully convince me that the large proportion of our Episcopalian brethren misunderstand us [hear, hear]—and that they are perfectly ignorant as to what we intend by the separation of the Church from the State [applause]. It is, however, and has long been my firm conviction, that if the Church were separated from the State, and emancipated from that system of tyranny and oppression which has characterised her existence, such is the attachment of a large portion of the people of England towards her, that she would rise and become an engine in the hands of the Holy Spirit, of immense benefit, not only to this nation, but to the nations of the earth [applause].

The Rev. W. Forster was received with loud cheers. He addressed the meeting with great eloquence, pointing out the objects for which the society had been established—which were the acknowledgment of religious freedom throughout the whole of the British empire; and next dwelt upon the unchristian character of a union of Church and State, and pointed out the baneful influence which a connexion between the Church and the State had exercised, and would exercise, upon the minds of the people wherever it existed, and concluded with an emphatic appeal to his hearers to cease not

their exertions until they had procured the removal of this evil.

Mr. Edward Miall then presented himself to the meeting, and was received with loud and prolonged cheering. Addressing the Chairman, he said he saw by the reception that had been given to him that it was all right [applause]. When he looked above and below him, and noticed the mass of Yorkshire earnestness and common sense brought together at that meeting, he was not afraid to submit to their decision any question depending upon the exercise of sound judgment [applause]. He believed that it was possible, under some circumstances, to treat State-church principles too theoretically—too much as though they were a matter for mere logical and speculative discussion. For his own part, however, he would rather upon that occasion, and upon all occasions, take them up as matters which they had to meet with in their every day life [hear, hear]. Just look at those principles as they were forced upon their attention—as they came across their path—sometimes in the shape of a policeman with a warrant of distraint [much laughter]—look at the question in the light in which it ought to be viewed by those evangelical Episcopalians who, if they had done nothing more, at all events had learnt the maxim of their Divine Master, and he believed that if they can be made to see its application, it would be as well—"Do unto others as ye would they should do unto you" [applause]. Mr. Miall then went on at some length to describe the real character and effects of a State-church. In conclusion, he thanked the meeting for the unanimous vote by which the motion had been adopted, that any individual, no matter how small the amount of his subscriptions, or whether he subscribed at all or not, might enrol himself as a member of the society.

The Rev. Dr. Acworth, principal of Airedale College, proposed the first resolution. Upon rising he was received with enthusiastic applause. He said:—

Christian friends and fellow-townsmen,—you have had presented before you to-night an embodiment of the principles of the Anti-state-church Association. Is it so frightful an object, I will ask, as to cause you to fly from it? Is not rather the exhibition of its principles which has been given—of the object and the occasion—worthy of your unanimous and earnest approval? [loud applause]. If such, then, be the case, as you have already signified that it is, I hardly need ask you to acquiesce in the resolution which I have been called upon by the Chairman to submit for your adoption. It is to the following effect:—

That this meeting cordially thanks the deputation from the British Anti-state-church Association for the able manner in which the objects of that body had been brought before it, and also herewith expresses its hearty assent to the fundamental principles of the Association, as embodied in the following words—"That this society be based upon the following principles—that all legislation by secular governments in the affairs of religion is an encroachment on the rights of conscience, and an usurpation of divine authority, and that the application of the resources of the State to the maintenance of any form of religious worship or instruction is unsound in principle, hurtful to liberty, and opposed to the Word of God."

This resolution furnishes the result of the answer which we ought to give to the gentlemen who have appeared before us to-night, and I do trust there is not one amongst us who is not prepared at once to signify his entire and hearty concurrence in it [applause]. I have had some opportunities of personally observing the working of this system on the continent, and I know that in a town in Germany—one of the free towns too—which I happened to visit a short time ago, I took upon myself the duty of waiting upon the Senate, and applying for the liberation of a beloved brother in Christ, who had been imprisoned simply because he considered it to be his duty to obey God rather than man. While remonstrating with these gentlemen, for such they certainly appeared to be, upon the unscriptural character of the treatment they had manifested towards my friend, they expressed the utmost surprise; and when I said to them that the Nonconformists of this country considered they had exercised great oppression towards my friend, they replied, "We do not prevent persons from worshipping according to the law of the land—we do not injure those that obey the statutes, which, as magistrates, we have enacted in order to promote the moral instruction and improvement of the people, and what more can you require at our hands?" The simple reply which we gave might be well described in the language which has been employed this night, namely, "That no man nor body of men have a right to come between any individual's conscience and his Maker" [applause]. I feel thoroughly satisfied, that so long as Churchism exists, unbelief, whatever form it may assume, will not be wholly destitute of an excuse and a plea. If Christianity is to be presented in the form in which Churchism chooses to offer it, and if it is to be thrust down the throats of the people, or they must be incarcerated in prison and deprived of their lives, infidelity and scepticism will have a most powerful excuse [hear, hear].

Dr. Acworth then proposed the resolution, and sat down amid loud and general applause.

Mr. Alderman Salt seconded the resolution, which, upon being put, was carried unanimously with acclamation.

The Rev. Dr. Godwin then briefly proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, for the kind and able manner in which he had discharged the duties of his office.

The Rev. H. Dowson seconded the motion, and it was carried amidst acclamation.

The Chairman, in acknowledging the compliment, said: Having been frequently honoured by them to preside over various public meetings held in the town, he certainly did feel this an extreme gratification in being honoured to preside over this large and unanimous assembly. Certainly he had never seen the hall so filled before, and with so highly respectable, attentive, and peaceful a meeting as they had this evening. It had been an act of kindness to him in this sense, for instead of the duties being onerous, they had been of a trivial character. He did hope that, in leaving that hall, they would not forget the important statements to which they had listened. He, for one, could say that he had derived important information; and had he not before a stimulus to go forward in this movement, he certainly had derived one this evening. Up to the present time he had not become a member, but he now begged his worthy friends (Mr. Miall and the Rev. W. Forster) to enrol his name among the members of the association. They all well knew that they had many acting together. The great point now was to form in their respective districts little committees, to obtain names, and to add otherwise to the power and strength of this association [cheers]. Let them set to work like Bradford men; and they knew they did things well when they set *their* hands to them [applause]. While on this subject it was only justice to say, that he was delighted, a few days ago, on perusing the London papers, that at a large meeting, brought together for the same object as themselves on that occasion, their worthy member (Colonel Thompson) made an admirable speech, advocating those views which had been promulgated that evening [cheers].

The meeting then began to disperse, about half-past nine.

MEETING AT YORK.

On Tuesday evening last, a public meeting was held in the Lecture-hall, Goodramgate, York, for the purpose of promoting the objects of the above society. The attendance was very numerous, the Hall being crowded in every part. George Leeman, Esq., was called to the chair, who, after a few prefatory observations, called upon E. Miall, Esq., editor of the *Nonconformist*, to address the meeting. Mr. Miall then came forward, and stated, at great length, the objects of the British Anti-state-church Association, and the means it adopts for the accomplishment of those objects. The society's object simply was to deliver the church of the Redeemer out of the hands of worldly men; to take the management of religion from those who really do not understand its affairs; and simply to teach it to those whose hearts glow with love to the Saviour. Mr. Miall proved that the connexion of the Church with the State is anti-scriptural, and afterwards observed that the aim of the society was not to put down the Church of England, but merely to separate it from the State, and then each might pursue its own proper and legitimate object. He concluded by moving the following resolution:—

That, in the opinion of this meeting, all legislation by secular governments in affairs of religion is an encroachment upon the rights of conscience, and an assumption of Divine authority; and that the application of the resources of the State to the maintenance of any form of religious worship or instruction, is unsound in principle, hostile to liberty, and opposed to the word of God. That the British Anti-state-church Association, both in its constitution and mode of operation, is eminently adapted to secure the great object for which it was formed—the liberation of religion from all State interference—and this meeting pledges itself, by all suitable means to advance its interests.

The motion was seconded by Mr. R. Abbay, and supported by Rev. R. Brewer, of Leeds. It was afterwards carried, there being only one dissentient. The meeting then dispersed.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF ANTI-STATE-CHURCH PRINCIPLES, AT WAKEFIELD.

(From the *Leeds Times*.)

On Friday evening there was to have been a meeting at the Corn Exchange, Wakefield, similar to that reported in other columns, as having taken place at Leeds; but in consequence of a challenge emanating from the Rev. J. Taylor, M.A., Master of the Grammar School, Wakefield, there was a public discussion of the principles of the British Anti-state-church Association, between the Rev. J. Taylor and Edward Miall, Esq. As might have been expected, the excitement created by such an announcement was intense, and at half-past seven o'clock—the hour appointed for the commencement of the discussion—there could not have been less than 1,800 persons present in the saloon, orchestra, and gallery. Previous to the meeting, the arrangements for the discussion were made, and were these:—Mr. Miall to open, and speak not more than 45 minutes; Mr. Taylor to follow, and was restricted to the same period; and then each was to be twice allowed 20 minutes for rejoinder, speaking alternately—making 85 minutes speaking to each party. Considerable difficulty was experienced in obtaining a chairman—three gentlemen who had been invited declining the onerous duty; but eventually, G. W. Harrison, Esq., for the Nonconformists, and R. Hodgson, Esq., for the Church party, agreed to sit, and Mr. T. M. Carter was mutually chosen as umpire. At this time we observed present upon the side of the platform appropriated by the Nonconformists, the Rev. Dr. Munro, of Silcoates; the Rev. T. Scales, of Leeds; Rev. G. W. Harrison, Mr. J. Horner, the Rev. J. D. Loraine, S. Stocks, Esq., Mr. E. Walker, Mr. Boston, Rev. E. Higginson, Mr. S. Clarkson, Mr. Cardwell, Mr. Shaw, Mr. W. B. Hindle, &c., &c.

Upon the Church side of the platform were—Mr. T. Searle, Mr. C. Clapham, Mr. T. Shaw, Mr. G. Wilson, Mr. Binns, Mr. Barrett, Mr. T. Searle, jun., Mr. J. T. White, Mr. H. Dibb, Mr. Rowley, and Mr. G. Goldthorpe.

Mr. Dibb having briefly stated the arrangements,

Mr. Hodgson called upon the meeting to hear each speaker patiently, in order to come to a deliberate judgment.

Mr. Miall (who had only just arrived by train) then stepped forward, and was received with loud applause. He said that he had only just arrived in Wakefield, and had been travelling most of the day, and, therefore, was ill prepared for a discussion. But he would simply take the course which he should have taken had there been no challenge. He came there as the representative of a society whose object was to relieve Christianity from all State control; and he came there to prove that State Establishments were essentially unreasonable, unjust, and unscriptural. He attacked not the Ecclesiastical system, as such, of the Church of England; it was not as a Church, but as a Church Establishment, that he attacked it. He condemned not the articles, the ritual, or the homilies of the Church of England; but he condemned that system which was supported and maintained, ultimately, by recourse to physical force. This system, too, led the Government to support religions opposed to each other; in England they supported Episcopacy; in Scotland, Presbyterianism; in Canada, Roman Catholicism; and in India, they even supported and patronised Paganism. They had been driven by this system to take the position that error as well as truth should be supported; and hence it had failed as an institution for the religious instruction of the people. It had failed to produce uniformity of religion in this country; it had failed to produce uniformity in the minds even of its own clergy; it had failed to attract the people into its fold; it had failed, utterly failed, in forming throughout the community that vital influence which should result in a virtuous population—a people devoted to Almighty God. How was this system brought into life and managed? The House of Commons—and his hearers knew how some of the members were elected, and of what elements that House was composed—were made the guardians and guides of the consciences of the people. Holding the principle that it was the duty of the civil Government to be the guardians of the people's consciences, these men—not men of godliness, not men necessarily religious—took from the people their goods, and their property, for the purpose of upholding an Establishment which represented the opinions only of a portion of the community. This lead to the mistaken idea of the people that religion was nothing but a system for abstracting property from the pockets of the people, and for the upholding of civil power. Now, in defending this, the friends of the Establishment passed over the New Testament, and pointed out that, under the old dispensation, the head of the religion of the country and the kingly office were united. But, while he admitted this, he begged them to remember that by the old dispensation, the civil magistrate did what the Government dared not now perform; he was called in to punish all dissent and nonconformity; but there was no toleration in that system. But the magistrate was never called in to exert his power to extort money to maintain the clergy. Now, the English Government thought they had done a great deal when they gave us a ticket of leave to worship God according to our consciences. He could understand how the civil magistrate's functions were united to the priestly office, under the old dispensation, because it was necessary to enforce uniformity, and they were living in the midst of what was but the type of coming events. There could be no duty of a ruler unless there was a corresponding and co-relative duty on the part of the subject. Well, then, if it was the duty of the State to decide what is religious truth, then the people on this side of the Tweed must be Episcopalians; if they crossed into Scotland, they must change into Presbyterians; if they went to Spain, they must become Roman Catholics. This was absurd. Well, then, were the people—the majority of the people—to decide? If so, the Establishment in Ireland was most indefensible—there for years and centuries had an alien Establishment existed [applause]. But legislators were giving up this principle, and were anxious that all sects, however antagonistic, should be paid by the State, in order to bring them under the control of the ruling powers. The Association of which he was the representative, sought to release Christianity from State control; it believed that religion would progress a great deal more without State aid than it would with it; they believed that it carried discord into every parish by the introduction of means which were contrary to Christianity; they believed there would be, if it were abolished, more charity between sect and sect; and that this empire would vastly gain by the severance of the Church and State; and this they sought to bring about by peaceful, Christian, and moral means—by all means, in fact, which by argument, peace and love, would bring all men into subjection to the truth. He did homage to his opponent's honesty, fairness, and consistency, in thus discussing the question before the public. He would only say—on behalf of himself, and the Society he represented—"Fairly discuss the question at issue, and we will abide by the result" [loud cheers].

The Rev. J. Taylor, who was received with applause, then came forward, and said he felt it to be a great privilege to advocate the cause of God there, and the cause of the poor man, whose cause this was. He stood there, not as the representative of a Church which had stood the test of centuries—but as a private individual; he stood there in want of a better man. With regard to Mr. M's pleasantries as to how people were sent to Parliament, he should not dwell upon it; but he thought it might be as well if Mr. Miall had explained how some people were rejected. With that, however, they had nothing to do; they were to inquire whether the Church of England was a good or an evil. He hoped that they would, ere he sat down, come to the conclusion that the Church Establishment was scriptural, just, and reasonable. They had not heard from his opponent one solitary evil which existed in consequence of the Church Establishment of this land. If he (Mr. Taylor) did not prove, before he sat down, that the Establishment was most scriptural and beneficial; and, if he did not bring Mr. Miall to petition for it, they might cry him down as unfit to come before them. It was not necessary to go into the question of the civil magistrate interfering for the protection of religion, because Mr. Miall had admitted it. Owen, one of the leading Nonconformists of Cromwell's days, when preaching before the "Long Parliament," said—"Some think that if you, the Parliament, were well-stationed, that you ought not to put your affairs before Christ. The Lord save you from that apprehension." "Do not now profess to have nothing to do with him, or take care that he has nothing to do with you." Howe and Baxter, both standing high in the ranks of Nonconformists, advocated the necessity and the propriety of the civil Government interfering for the propagation of religious truth. The London Missionary Society, to which Mr. Miall doubtless subscribed, were endeavouring to obtain State endowment for their labours in the Pacific Ocean; they had actually waited upon the king of one of the islands to ask him publicly to adopt Christianity in his country. Mr. Dwight, a Nonconformist, writing upon America, stated that in one State, where the Government provided religious instruction, there was one minister to 1,300 people; but in another State, where all was left to voluntary effort, there was but one minister to 19,000 people [A voice—"And plenty too"]. A gentleman near him said, "plenty too;" he hoped that man was not a Churchman [hear, hear]. There was now more people in this country who had no place of worship in which they could appear than there were twenty years ago [applause and interruption]. Within twenty years the metropolis of this country had added 800,000 or 900,000 to its population, or nearly one-half of what its population now is. What had the Nonconformists done to meet this increase? Why, in that time they had built twenty chapels capable of holding on an average 400 people. Thus the Dissenters and the voluntary effort had supplied accommodation for 40,000—leaving 760,000 souls without spiritual provision, unless the Church had stepped in to the rescue. Of 6,068 parishes in England with churches, they had but eighty chapels erected by voluntary effort. They were told that the Church could afford anything. From a return ordered by Lord Grey's Reform Parliament, it was shown that the whole revenue of the Church—fees and all—amounted to £4,500,000—or barely more than £208 each for the labourers af the Church. Was that too much? [interruption]. Mr. Taylor concluded by hoping that he had proved the position he sought to establish—namely, that the Church Establishment of this country was a blessing to it [mingled cheers and disapprobation].

Mr. Miall rejoined, and said, that the whole arguments advanced by Mr. Taylor were in effect, that, if they left Christianity to voluntary efforts, Christianity would be shattered and fall; and unless the State stept in, the religion that Churchmen preached would afford them no support at all. They had had quotations from the writings of Dissenters—great and glorious Nonconformists of other days—but Nonconformists still believed that the world was progressive, and that is was the very weakness of their predecessors' mind that, while they claimed liberty for themselves, they forgot to give it to others. But these old Nonconformists, it was well to remember, were the means, when the apathy and sloth of the Church had caused religion to be virtually a dead letter in this land, to resuscitate it, and bring it into life and vigour. With regard to the American quotations, he would ask Mr. Taylor whether the passages he had read were not written before the separation of the Church from the State, and, consequently, before voluntary effort had had fair play, and a clear stage? Dr. Lamb, an able writer upon America, had given his decision that throughout the United States there were more people set apart for the ministry, in proportion to the population, than in any kingdom of the world. It was perfectly notorious that when a new town was laid out in the United States, the first building erected was the church—the second the school-house; and the religious and moral culture of the people in America was unequalled in Christendom. With regard to the conduct of the London Missionary Society, it was only one of the many lamentable instances in the principles of men being better than their conduct. However, it was right to say, that the London Missionary Society publicly repudiates this conduct of one of their missionaries. Why, all the evils over which they mourned in Tahiti had arisen from a tampering with the independence of religion, an attempt to connect the Church and State. Mr. Miall then said that Mr. Taylor was bound to prove that the means were right as the object—and if a king were permitted to communicate religion, he was bound to use proper means. A physician was not permitted to produce spiritual results by purely physical means. A king could not enforce Christianity without wielding the sword, and thus destroying the end at which he aimed [loud applause].

Mr. Taylor replied, that the only argument used by Mr. Miall, in reference to the scriptural portion of the subject, was a proof furnished from Scripture, that the civil magistrates had a power to enforce conformity. He had given him nothing to combat; but if he felt disposed to argue this question, he was at Mr. Miall's service for a week. If it was better to leave men to grope their way to heaven in the best manner they could, rather than to furnish them with the best possible means, then he would desert the Church—but not till then. The means they took were the means commanded in Scripture; and was it wrong to follow out that which Scripture directed? It was just to make every man subscribe to the bodily wants of the people; surely it was as right to call upon the rich to provide for the spiritual wants of the poor. All were taxed alike; but, in the voluntary system, they found the money-loving buttoning their pockets—the same individuals were always being called upon to subscribe. He had proved that the Church Establishment was not unscriptural; and was it unjust to make all contribute alike to carry out the best possible work in the best possible way? Until he could find something more just than justice—something more Christian than Christianity—something more scriptural than Scripture, he would hold fast by the Church Establishment [loud cheers and disapprobation].

Mr. Miall then replied, in a forcible style, and completely demolished every semblance of an argument advanced by his antagonist, concluding, amidst vociferous plaudits, by proposing the following resolution:—"That this meeting—being of opinion that all State interference in matters of religious faith involves a departure from the principles and precepts of Christianity; and, moreover, that the patronage extended by the Government to one favoured section of the Christian church is unjust to all who are beyond its limits—

deems the British Anti-state-church Association, in its endeavours to remove all such patronage, to be worthy the sympathy and support of all who are interested in the maintenance of justice, and the emancipation of our religion."

Mr. TAYLOR rejoined, and proposed as an amendment a resolution to the effect, that the Established Church was neither unscriptural nor unjust, but beneficial to the community.

The resolution was carried, about eleven o'clock, by a large majority, and with reiterated cheers.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Chairman, &c., and the meeting, which had been most excellently conducted throughout, afterwards broke up.

CHURCHES AND CHAPELS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

POWER OF VOLUNTARY RELIGION.

(From the *Leeds Mercury*.)

The comparative numbers of Churchmen and Dissenters in the United Kingdom are a matter of considerable interest, and even importance. Very erroneous statements are often made on both sides: the materials for forming a comparison are scattered; it will, therefore be of utility to make any nearer approach than has hitherto been made to an accurate estimate. In the course of remarks at an anti-state-church meeting in Leeds, on Wednesday, Mr. Edward Baines, jun., adduced the number of places of worship built and maintained by Dissenters as one among many proofs of the power of the voluntary principle. From the statements made by him, and from subsequent examination, we arrive at the following results.

From the Clergy List of 1845, we find that the number of churches and chapels of the Establishment in England and Wales, in the year 1844, was about 12,100. Allowing for subsequent increase, we may suppose them now to be about 12,500.

From the authorized publications of the Wesleyan, Independent, Baptist, Roman Catholic, Unitarian, Wesleyan Association, and other bodies, as well as from other sources, we draw the following results as to the number of their places of worship:—

Chapels in England.	
Wesleyan Methodist	3000
Independent	1800
Baptist	1435
Primitive Methodist	1421
Roman Catholic	540
Bible Christian	391
Quaker	387
Wesleyan Methodist Association	316
Methodist New Connexion	277
Unitarian	220
Orthodox Presbyterian	77
Lady Huntingdon's Connexion	30
Inghamites, New Jerusalem Church, and various	supposed 500
Total in England	10,394
Chapels in Wales.	
Calvinistic Methodist	759
Independent	640
Baptist	312
Wesleyan	469
Unitarian	30
Quaker	12
Wesleyan Association	6
Primitive Methodist	12
Various minor sects (supposed)	100
Total in Wales	2,340

The following, then, is the summary of the places of worship belonging to the Establishment and the Nonconformist bodies respectively:—

Summary of England and Wales.		
Churches and Chapels of the Establishment		12,500
Chapels of Nonconformists in England	10,394	
" " in Wales	2,340	
		12,734

It would appear, then, that there is a greater number of places of worship belonging to the Nonconformists than to the Established Church, even in that part of the kingdom where the Establishment is the strongest. It does not of course follow, that there is a greater number of Nonconformists than of Churchmen. There are many places where the great bulk of the population attend the church, and where the Dissenting chapels are small, and scantily attended. The churches would in general accommodate much larger numbers than the chapels. But, on the other hand, many of the churches are in parishes of very small population. Of 14,453 parishes and townships in England, no fewer than 9,181 have a population below 400 persons each. Many of the churches which abound in cathedral cities, and other old towns, as well as in villages, have very scanty congregations. The Dissenting chapels exist in the greatest number where the population is the most dense; and, in the manufacturing districts at least, the Dissenting congregations are larger than the Church congregations. On the whole, however, we do not doubt that the number of Churchmen exceeds that of Dissenters in England and Wales; and of course, in point of wealth, the Church has an immense superiority. But the above figures lead to the belief, that the numerical majority of the Church is much smaller than many writers have assumed. And it is surely a fact which most strikingly demonstrates the power of the voluntary principle, that the Nonconformist bodies of England and Wales, besides contributing to the support of the Church, and in the face of many discouragements, have built and are maintaining no less than 12,700 places of worship, and support their ministers and service, without the aid of sixpence from any public funds.

In Scotland there is a decided majority against the Presbyterian Establishment. The following numbers of churches and chapels approach to correctness:—

Churches and Chapels in Scotland.		
Church of Scotland		1,160
Free Church	840	
United Presbyterian Church	518	
Congregationalist	142	
United Original Seceder	41	
Reformed Presbyterian Church	30	
Scottish Episcopal Church	109	
Baptist	91	
Roman Catholic	82	
Wesleyan Methodist	32	
Evangelical Union	18	
Various Minor sects (supposed)	80	
Total of Nonconformist bodies		1,983

Thus the Nonconformist chapels exceed the churches of the Scotch Establishment by 823. But when it is remembered that great numbers of the churches of the Establishment were absolutely emptied by the secession of the Free Church, it will be obvious, that the numerical majority of Dissenters must be much greater than in proportion to the number of their places of worship.

In Ireland the Establishment has only about *one-ninth* of the population attached to it, whilst the other *eight-ninths* are Dissenters or Roman Catholics. The following are the numbers given by the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the state of religious and other instruction in Ireland, in the year 1834:—

Religion of the Irish.	
Members of the Established Church.	852,064
Presbyterians	642,356
Other Protestant Dissenters	21,808
Roman Catholics	6,427,712
Total	7,943,940

We are not aware of any evidence as to the number of churches and chapels, except what is inferential. The following are the numbers of the clergy and ministers of religion, as given in the census of 1841:—

Ministers of Religion in Ireland.	
Established Clergy	1,560
Baptists	6
Methodists	216
Presbyterians	449
Independents	13
Moravians	7
Roman Catholics	2,145
Friars	11
Not specified	872
Missionaries	14
Scripture Readers	118
Total	5,411

The Established clergy, therefore, are much more numerous in proportion than their flocks; not a few of the clergy have not a church to preach in, and not a few of the churches are without congregations. At least 3,000 chapels must have been built, and are now upheld by the poorest part of the population, entirely without Government aid, except the allowances made under the name of *Regium Donum* to the Unitarian and other Presbyterian ministers of the north of Ireland—the benumbing and deadening effects of which have lately been exhibited on official authority.

It would appear from the above, that the places of worship belonging to the Established churches and the Nonconformist bodies in the United Kingdom are as follow:—

Places of Worship—United Kingdom.	Belonging to the Establishment.	Belonging to Nonconformists.
In England and Wales	12,500	12,734
In Scotland	1,160	1,983
In Ireland (supposed)	1,400	3,000
Total	15,060	17,717

But the proportions of the population attached to the respective religious communities must be different. We are inclined to believe, that the actual attendants at the churches of the Establishment in England and Wales would exceed the attendants at Dissenting and other chapels in the proportion of four to three. We think that in Scotland the proportion belonging to the Established Church would be, compared with the other religious bodies, as two to five. And in Ireland the proportion of Churchmen to the other sects is as one to eight. If, for the sake of ascertaining what we may term the comparative religious weight of the Establishment and the other sects, we divide the populations of Great Britain and Ireland according to these proportions (though we are aware that there are great numbers who attend no place of worship, and belong to no religious body), the result would be as follows:—

Computed Numbers belonging to the Establishment and other Religious Bodies in the United Kingdom.	Of the Establishment.	Other Religious bodies.	Total Population.
England and Wales and Islands in the British Seas	9,160,446	6,870,335	16,030,781
Scotland	748,623	1,871,560	2,620,184
Ireland	908,347	7,266,777	8,175,124
Total	10,817,417	6,008,672	26,826,089

It would seem, then, that the other religious sects outnumber the Establishment as follows:—

Nonconformist Bodies	16,008,672
Establishments	10,817,417
Majority	5,191,155

The proportion against the Establishment is about as three to two.

The object for which Mr. E. Baines made these calculations on Wednesday was simply this—to prove that the voluntary principle had *power* and *efficiency* amply sufficient for the support and propagation of religion. To us the proof of fact is perfectly demonstrative. This view of the state of our population was only one of several illustrations given of the power of the voluntary principle; and this single branch of the subject was chosen as that on which there is the greatest ignorance and the most erroneous impression. The scriptural, moral, and social objections to establishments were treated with distinguished ability, and not less moderation, by the Reverend Chairman and other speakers.

THE ANTI-CHURCH-AND-STATE CONSPIRATORS.

[The following article from the *Church and State Gazette*, on the recent meeting of the British Anti-state-church Association at the London Tavern, is extracted as a specimen of the kind of argument to which the more interested supporters of the Establishment have recourse. Mark the elegant diction, the powerful logic, the crushing sarcasm, the scrupulous regard to truth manifest throughout! We will not mar the impression it is calculated to produce by any superfluous comments, but we cannot but congratulate the Church upon having such a champion, and the Universities such an ornament. Were a professorship of "slang" to be created, how admirably would this polished writer be fitted to occupy the chair!]

The association which, while it demands liberty for itself and its adherents, will not allow the same blessing to be enjoyed by Churchmen—the band of little would-be-great men who shriek "Down with the monarchy!" if Government dare but look inquiringly into their affairs, and yet who will not permit good Churchmen, who honour the throne, to possess that union between their Church and the State which has been for years their pride and their bulwark—in other words [how self-evident is the sequence!], the Anti church-and-state Association have, as will be seen in another column, opened their autumnal campaign in the metropolis. [Two palpable falsehoods in the first sentence is very well to begin with.] The details, though brief, are worth reading, for they have the merit, at least, of conveying some novelty of intelligence. One of the most bitter of Baptists (*that king destroying, altar-crushing, truth-despising sect!*) [Moderate! Why not include all Dissenters in this double-barrelled calumny? it would not at all diminish its force] announces that the great majority of English Churchmen entertain violent hatred against the Church as an Establishment, and would venture we can hardly tell what lengths to destroy the gentle bonds which unite her with the State. This is an assertion of an alleged fact which we never heard made before, and in which, when uttered now, we place no belief whatever. Alleged fact and impudent assertion, they both come under one category—a category to which we need not give a name. [Why not?].

But if the majority of Churchmen—nay, if the majority of Englishmen—be not adverse to the existence of the Church as an Establishment, her unprincipled enemies know well how to raise an unprincipled hostility against her. "She has unheard-of wealth," cries one; and "let us plunder her," shout the Baptist republicans, who listen to the *malignant mendacity*. Such foes to the well-being of the Establishment are as much impelled by honesty as the gentlemen who the other day robbed Rogers's bank. Here was a wealthy establishment which excited their latronic cupidity, which they plundered accordingly, and with which they would not make peace without being permitted to retain a portion of the booty they had carried off. *So these sleek burglars who, bold from their gin-and-water and their pipes*, talk like Macheath, *prate in their slang of what thieves call "swag," and urge to robbery in order, at least, to make profit by making terms.* [A rather effective specimen of the genuine slang style, in which scurrility and falsehood are mingled in about equal proportions.] It is not the union of the Church and State that they care little for, but a pilfering of the honestly-acquired revenues of the former for which they care much. This is so true, that it is only by constantly holding before their easily-gulled hearers the amount of treasure that they may have for the "nimming," that attention to the sole desired object can be maintained, &c. &c. [Is it possible there can be more than one specimen of the Gathercolean genus in this country?]

The Railways from London to the North.—In the course of a few weeks, by the completion of the Caledonian Railway, the communication from London to Glasgow and Edinburgh will be continuous; and parties may proceed in winter rapidly, without changing carriages, from the metropolis to these places. The distances are as follows:—

	Miles.
London to Carlisle, by Birmingham	310
Carlisle to Glasgow	109
Carlisle to Edinburgh	101
London to Glasgow	419
London to Edinburgh	411

If the route by the Trent Valley Railway be pursued, the distance from London to Carlisle will be considerably shortened. The distance from London to Edinburgh, by the present Midland lines' route, is 426½ miles; but there are at present serious interruptions at Gateshead and Berwick, on account of the bridges across the Tyne and Tweed, which, from their magnitude, cannot be completed for some time, and the communication has to be effected by omnibuses. When the Great Northern Railway is completed, the nearest route from London to Edinburgh will be by the Great Northern to York, then by Newcastle and Berwick, or by the branch from the Great Northern, five and a-half miles north of Doncaster, to Leeds, thence by the North-Western, through Skipton, to join the Lancaster and Carlisle Railway. The distance will be—

	Miles.
London to York	185¼
York to Edinburgh, by Newcastle	207¾
London to Edinburgh	393
London to Leeds	184
Leeds to Edinburgh, by Carlisle	204¼
London to Edinburgh	388¼

This last is undoubtedly the shortest route; but the way by the London and North-Western, Lancaster and Carlisle, &c. as being performed in the least time, and under one management, offers many advantages to through passengers.

Sunday Trading in the Metropolis.—A parliamentary paper has just been published, which shows the alarming extent to which merchandise is carried on in London on Sabbath. Besides perishable commodities—including all kinds of victuals—boots and shoes, hats, clothes, drapery, toys, furniture, crockery, ironmongery, and groceries, are bought and sold, and at 10 or 12 per cent. higher than on other days, so that above 5,000 tradespeople, who neglect to lay in provisions for Sabbath on the Saturday, besides violating the Sabbath, lose much money by their traffic on that day. The law at present inflicts a fine of 5*s.* for such offences, and the committee recommend that it shall be made more stringent as regards the observance of the Sabbath. It appeared by the inquiry that most of the traffickers wish to give up their Sunday traffic, and the bill proposed by the committee shall prevent all traffic unless the sale of certain articles of food on the part of the Lord's-day which interferes not with public worship. The bill is defended on the score that it will secure rest and recreation to the working classes at present employed on that day.

An Elephant's Revenge.—At the Lutterworth fair, on Thursday, among other holiday exhibitions provided for the amusement of the visitors, Hylton's menagerie was conspicuous. A party of young men purchased a quantity of apples, and amused themselves by pitching them into the elephant's mouth, apparently to the gratification of both parties. A labouring man, an inhabitant of the town, who had evidently been devoting too much to Sir John Barley-corn, picked up a stone, which he also threw into the open mouth of the elephant, but the latter had no sooner discovered the imposition, than he raised his trunk, and bringing it down on the offender with great violence, instantly prostrated him. The animal was proceeding still further to mark his sense of the indignity, but assistance being promptly afforded, the party was rescued, and it appeared that he had not sustained much injury.—*Leicester Paper.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

DR. THOMSON AND THE BIBLE MONOPOLY.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Sir,—Dr. Adam Thomson, the friend and advocate of the free and unlicensed printing of the Bible, is at this moment within the jaws of the monopolist, and so completely, that extrication seems to be almost impossible. The attempt to effect his rescue may but hasten the crisis of his ruin. To all appearance, he is likely to lose all, save his unimpeachable integrity, and the imperishable and unsullied honour of his disinterested and successful course as the emancipator of the Bible press. The position of his affairs at this juncture demands the immediate and best attention of all who are concerned for the cause of truth in its most precious form, and of freedom in its purest and noblest aspect. Acquainted from the outset with his simple and grand object, and having marked with augmented interest the spirit in which for so many years he has laboured for its promotion, I cannot refrain from giving utterance to individual feeling on the subject. In doing this, I take no counsel, and am alone responsible for the sentiments expressed. I never met with a person more unassuming, unambitious, truthful, and benevolent, than Dr. Thomson. Like Mr. Cobden in this respect, all personal considerations, throughout his peaceful and earnest agitation, have been habitually merged and forgotten in his absorbing devotedness to the work before him. To this day, though the fact of the cheapening of the Bible to the million is so notorious, and notwithstanding the amount of eloquent declamation on the subject, the real merits of this humble and noble-minded man are comparatively unknown. Various reasons might be assigned for this. The gigantic incubus he sought to remove was maintained in its leaden and cumbrous pressure by all the weight of aristocratic and hierarchical influence. The noblest religious institution of the land (by implication at least) was pledged to secure its perpetuity. Conscious himself of a sincere and fervent attachment to the sacred cause of freedom, and willing to sacrifice all personal friendships rather than betray it, he trusted that, in the ranks of Nonconformity, there would be found a powerful and combined phalanx at once to rally round its standard, however humble the hand by which it might be planted. It is needless now to show how much in this anticipation he suffered disappointment. He has never, that I know of, murmured or complained.

> Την μεντοι κακοτητα και ιλαδον εστιν ελισθαι
> 'Ρηϊδιως· ολιγη μεν ὁδος, μαλα δ' εγγυθι ναιει.
> Της δ' αρετης ιδρωτα θεοι προπαροιθεν εθηκαν,
> Αθανατοι· μακρος δε και ορθιος οἱμος επ' αυτην
> Και τρηχος το πρωτον.

He did not adopt the most approved methods of conducting a cause of this nature. He committed himself to a simple and righteous principle before he had obtained for it respectable patronage. He began to put the truth in circulation without having it regularly endorsed. The conseqence is, the cause we advocated has triumphed, but the advocate is ruined. In one year a saving has been effected to Bible purchasers of nearly half a million sterling, but the man who was mainly instrumental in securing this immense boon, in declining years is overtaken by personal and relative calamities of the severest order. The envious will secretly exult; and his example will be quoted as a warning to all who have the temerity to follow their most distinct and solemn convictions of duty without first seeking the sanction of the more wary and systematic agents of philanthropy. But with all his sad and accumulating reverses, the pastor of Coldstream has an inward satisfaction, both in review and in the anticipations of the future, no pecuniary emolument could give. Amongst all her philosophers, statesmen, reformers, or divines, Scotland boasts of no name more honourable than that of Adam Thomson. It will be ranked, in other times, with Miles Coverdale and Thomas Bilney, and possibly be the subject of a tercentenary commemoration. The present generation, however, owes a duty to its greatest religious benefactor; and the honour, not of Scotia alone, but of Christendom, is involved in its prompt and efficient performance. Among your readers, Sir, are the confessors of freedom; men who have the courage—the grace—to avow its principles amid chilling neglect, bitter reproach, and deliberate misrepresentation. They will be concerned to know how they can best sustain and befriend Dr. Thomson. All I venture now to do is to suggest, that in the short interval there remains before the excitement of a Parliamentary campaign, they should make inquiry into the exigencies of his case.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

9, *Surrey-square.* John Waddington.

THE FUTURE DISPOSAL OF CHURCH PROPERTY.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Dear Sir,—It is more than time that a new element were introduced into the discussion of the Church and State question. There are few now who know anything of the genius of Christianity that have not come to the conclusion, that the union of the secular with the spiritual is as compact of evil. The arguments and illustrations which lead to this conclusion cannot be too often repeated; but we want *now*, that some general principle—nay, precise details of the process of the proposed separation, should be thrown abroad upon the general mind. These, if well considered and practical, would greatly multiply the numbers of Anti-state-churchmen, and would to some extent silence the ruffianly hirelings, who impute to us a desire to obtain for ourselves the wealth held by the clergy. You may not, perhaps, have seen the last number of a weekly paper which stamps Church and State on its front; this paper is, notoriously, a mere bookseller's adventure, and from its selfish and cunning balancing between High and Low Church, obtained for itself the title of the See-and-Saw Gazette. This mere mercenary print, with a coarseness and vulgarity worthy of itself, imputes felony and regicide to the promoters of the Anti-state-church movement. Wicked and absurd as these imputations are, they will be favourite and useful weapons against us, as the cause advances. Ten years ago, Church reformers were damaged by them, and the prejudices of the laity of the Established Church successfully roused.

Let a plan, for the future appropriation of the public property held by clergymen, be immediately proposed and promulgated—say, "Church Property to the Poor"—"Church Property in Lieu of Poor's-rates"—Church Property to any strictly national purpose that may be professed, only let its application be at once designated.

Very truly yours,

J. W. O.

[The question of the most equitable means of bringing about the separation of Church and State has been again and again brought before the public, both in the publications of the British Anti-state-church Association and in the addresses of its leading advocates. But it is not for *them* to dictate how the property thus reverting to the nation is to be disposed of: that remains for the legislature alone to decide.]

OPINIONS OF VON BECKERATH, THE LIBERAL LEADER IN PRUSSIA.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Sir,—It is with much pleasure I send you the enclosed very interesting extract from a speech delivered by Von Beckerath, a banker of Crefeld, during a debate in the late Prussian Diet, on the subject of religious qualifications for the exercise of political rights.

October, 1847. A Noncon.

"It is the business of the State to realize the idea of right. Accordingly, the data on which legislation must proceed are not subjective opinions, but objective facts, to be ascertained only by reference to certain outward criteria; that is, the external relations and actions of life, and in no case sentiments, least of all, religious convictions. Religious conviction—the relation of man to his Creator—is a thing altogether beyond the sphere of the State; it is a sacred privilege of the individual, the innermost secret of the soul, which no mortal eye can penetrate, and no human rule can measure. But the State is not only to realize the idea of right, it is also to represent the form in which a given nation progresses towards the universal destination of humanity. The idea of humanity, therefore, is the highest idea of the State. But how can the violation of the dignity of man in a single individual be reconciled with the idea of humanity—such a violation as is involved in the exclusion from political rights of a portion of the members of the State, not because they act in opposition to the purpose of the State, but because, on subjects which lie beyond the sphere of the State, they have formed for themselves a persuasion which does not correspond with the persuasion of the majority of the citizens, or with the persuasion patronised in the State? . . . The Christian character of the State depends not on a confession of faith, but on the spirit of Christianity. But the spirit of Christianity is no other than the spirit of pure humanity—the spirit of love and of freedom. The true Christian State is that which, in all its ordinances and institutions, exhibits that spirit, and gives it scope for free development in every direction; but that State does not deserve to be called a Christian State which seeks to shut up that spirit within confessional trammels, and upon this narrow foundation deems it justifiable to make political rights dependent on religious profession."

THE PEOPLE'S CHARTER AND PAYMENT OF WAGES TO MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Sir,—In Lord Campbell's "Lives of the Chancellors," page 420, the following passage occurs:—"His (Lord Nottingham's) most important decision, while he held the Great Seal, probably was, that the obligation on constituencies to pay wages to their representatives in the House of Commons still continues. After the dissolution of Parliament in 1681, Thomas King, Esq., late member for Harwich, presented a petition, stating, 'that he had served as burgess, in Parliament for the said borrough severall yeares, and die give his constant attendance therein; but that the said borrough had not paid him his wages, though often requested so to do.' Notice being given to the corporation of Harwich, and the facts being verified, the Lord Chancellor ordered the writ to issue *De expensis burgensium levandis.*" Upon this the noble and learned author puts in a note as follows, which is worthy of more than a passing remark in these electioneering days:—"Reg. Lib. A 1679, p. 215. I believe that this is the last order made for payment of wages. Some say that Andrew Marvell was regularly paid his wages as long as he served for Hull, but I believe he only received from his constituents yearly a complimentary cask of herrings. *I know no reason in point of law why any member may not now insist on payment of his wages, or, if he never means to stand again for the same or any other place, why, in point of prudence, he may not insist on his rights. In most cases the proceeding would be what in the law of Scotland is called 'an action of repetition' to recover back money wrongly received. For this point of the people's charter—payment of wages—no new law is required.*"

The matter is exceedingly interesting at the present moment, and well worth considering. If it be the undoubted right of the member he ought to have it, and there should be no squeamishness about his acceptance—at any rate, there is high legal authority for the payment of the member's *wages.*

Yours respectfully,

J. S.

Chinese Literature.—Letters from the celebrated M. Gutzlaff, missionary and Consul-General of England in the Celestial Empire, have just been received at Munich. They are dated from Hong Kong, and give an account of the labours of that eminent individual, which approach the marvellous. He has just terminated a volnminous history of the Chinese empire, and has sent the manuscript of it to M. Cotta, the publisher, at Stuttgardt. He has published at Hong Kong a universal geography in the Chinese language, with sixty large maps. He has begun to compose a complete dictionary of the Chinese language, which will, he says, absorb all his leisure for the next three years. It is only in his leisure hours that he can occupy himself with literary and scientific labours, all the rest of his time being devoted to his missionary labours and his consular duties. M. Gutzlaff announces that he has addressed some long memoirs on the geography of China to the Geographical Society of London, which it is expected will shortly be published. M. Gutzlaff still maintains the opinion that Christianity and European civilization can only be successfully propagated in China by the Chinese themselves. He has accordingly founded a Chinese Society, which already possesses 600 members, many of whom are mandarins, and some native *savans* of the first rank. This society employs its efforts on all the countries situated to the south of the river Jang-tse-Kiang, and it has already published a great number of popular works. —*Galignani.*

Not so Safe as the Bank.—It is stated that a farmer who resides near Fazakerly, and who had £2,000 in Leyland's bank, at Liverpool, went thither on Monday week, and loudly demanded his money. He was told he had not the slightest reason for alarm, and had better let it remain. This rendered him suspicious, and he said, "Noa; my wife said aw mun hev it, an' aw will hev it; soa give it me." His money was handed to him, and he returned home. That very night, it is said, some adroit Liverpool thieves burst into his house, and "stole the money."—*Liverpool Albion.*

The Late Storm.—The beacon erected a few months since on the Goodwin Sands, under the direction of the Trinity Board, was swept away on Saturday night, the 23d ult., during a heavy gale from the south-west.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

New Independent Chapel, Darwen.—On Thursday last, a new and splendid edifice was opened for public worship as an Independent chapel, in the village of Darwen, Lancashire. The building is lofty, massive, and spacious in external appearance, and in the pure Gothic style. The chapel front presents a most commanding appearance, its lofty turrets being seen from a considerable distance round the village. The chapel is seated for 1,000, at 18 inches, exclusive of a children's gallery, seated for 400 hundred, at 14 inches. On the morning of the opening, however, it was computed that not fewer than 1,600 persons were present, chiefly adults. The cost of the chapel has been about £6,000, of which about £4,000 has been raised by subscription, exclusive of the collections on Thursday, which amounted to above £317. The opening sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. Raffles, of Liverpool, from 2 Cor. ix. 15, and was two hours in length. A public dinner took place on Thursday afternoon, in connexion with the opening, and Dr. Hamilton, in acknowledging a toast, related an amusing anecdote about a previous and the only other visit he had paid to Darwen. He had preached there on a former occasion, and was on the day after his service passing along the street, when he was surprised by a man shouting "Felly!" after him. On the man coming up he asked, "Are yo the felly that preached yesterday?" On replying in the affirmative, the man rejoined, "Why, mon, they say yo're a very learned felly; but oi understood every word yo sed" [great laughter]. He (Dr. Hamilton) hoped it would ever be so with audiences in Darwen and elsewhere, that he would always be intelligible [applause].—*Bradford Observer.*

Wattisfield, Suffolk.—Mr. W. Warren, late of Cratfield, Suffolk, has accepted an invitation to the pastorate of Wattisfield, in the same county.

Frankton, Salop.—On Monday, October 25, Mr. William Hodges was publicly ordained to the pastoral charge over the Independent church at the above place. In the morning, Mr. D. Harries, of Rugton, introduced the service by reading the Scriptures and prayer. The introductory discourse was delivered by Mr. E. J. Falding, M.A., of Wellington. The usual questions were proposed by Mr. G. Edge, of Ellesmere. The ordination prayer was offered by Mr. J. Griffiths, of Domgay. The charge to the minister was delivered by Mr. J. Davies, of Oswestry (his pastor); and the service concluded with prayer by Mr. A. Francis, of Wrexham. And in the evening, Mr. J. Pattison, of Wem, preached to the people.

Rev. William Brock.—It having become generally known in the city, that a renewed effort had been made by the Baptist church assembling in Broadmead, Bristol, to induce Mr. Brock to leave Norwich, and become their pastor; Mr. Brock gave notice last Sabbath day, that he should make a statement relative to that invitation, on the following Wednesday evening (his usual lecture night). He accordingly stated, for the satisfaction of his congregation, that he had given to the deputation from Bristol, "a negative reply—a reply so distinctly and unmistakeably negative, that he apprehended it to be impossible for the invitation to be again renewed—that such had been his spontaneous determination, independent of any persuasion from a single individual—and that there had not been a moment when he meant or wished to leave a sphere of labour, which he had occupied nearly fifteen years."—*Norfolk News.*

Potton, Beds.—On Friday, October 8, 1847, the first stone of a new congregational chapel was laid in this place, by G. Game Day, Esq., accompanied by Potto Brown, Esq., when an appropriate chapter was read, and prayer offered by Mr. J. Frost, of Cotton-end, and a suitable address delivered by Mr. W. Alliot, of Bedford. Mr. J. Stockbridge, of Morden, concluded the service upon the ground with prayer. The friends then adjourned to a malting, kindly lent for the purpose, where tea had been provided by the liberality of ladies interested in the cause. In the evening, a public meeting was held, at which G. Game Day, Esq., presided.

Mr. Stewart, of Cromarty, has been chosen successor to Dr. Candlish, appointed one of the professors of divinity in the Free Church College, over the congregation in St. George's church, Edinburgh.

Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire.—Mr. Henry Howard, of Rillington, in the East Riding of Yorkshire, has received and accepted a cordial and unanimous invitation from the church and congregation assembling in Ebenezer chapel, in the above place, vacant by the death of Mr. William Everitt. Mr. Howard will enter on his stated labours on the first Sabbath in November.

Braunton, North Devon.—On Wednesday, October 13th, Mr. Samuel C. Kent was ordained over the church worshipping in the Independent chapel. Mr. John Bounsall, of Ottery St. Mary, delivered the introductory discourse; Mr. R. Thomson, M.A., of Ilfracombe, asked the usual questions; Mr. B. Kent, of Barnstaple, offered the designation prayer; Mr. Henry Madgin, of Tiverton, gave the charge to the pastor; and Mr. James Buckpitt, of Torrington, preached to the people. Several neighbouring ministers took parts in the services.

Woodham Ferris, Essex.—The second annual examination of the day and infant schools in this village took place on Wednesday afternoon, the 20th October. This institution rose through voluntary efforts, and is still well sustained without Government assistance. It has received nearly 120 boys and girls, about eighty of whom are now in attendance. The examination was conducted by Mr. J. H. Pried, Independent minister, and consisted of reading, writing, Scripture history, natural history, and geography. The answers given called forth the warmest approbation and astonishment of all present. A public tea meeting was afterwards held in the school-room, when about 100 persons partook of the usual refreshments. A report was read, and the meeting addressed by several gentlemen with much effect. The whole proceedings illustrate the power of voluntaryism, even in rural districts; and prove that when fairly tried no necessity exists for the cumberous and expensive machinery necessary to State interference.

PROPOSED ASYLUM FOR IDIOTS.—A public meeting in favour of establishing an asylum for idiots was held on Wednesday, at the London Tavern. The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor was called to the chair, and opened the proceedings by a brief address in support of the objects of the meeting. In this great metropolis charities of every kind and description abounded for every possible purpose, with the single exception of reclaiming and harbouring those whom Providence had not blessed with the entire use of their faculties. He trusted that meeting would do something to fill up the blank, and foster and cherish the object for which they had assembled, so that it should become one of the gre t charities for which the City of London was so justly celebrated. Mr. Gilpin having read the address of the provisional committee, Mr. David Wire announced that Sir Charles Forbes had sent a donation of £100, with his best wishes for the success of so valuable an institution; that Lord Dudley Stuart and Sir Peter Laurie, President of the Bethlehem Hospital, had each promised their patronage and assistance; that the Lord Mayor had subscribed twenty guineas. Mr. Wire then proceeded to propose the first resolution, which declared that, in the judgment of the meeting, it was most desirable that an asylum be provided for the care and education of the idiot, and that it be forthwith commenced. He vindicated the objects of the meeting and the time at which it was assembled, and argued that it had been proved by actual experience on the continent, to be quite possible to restore the idiot to the use of his faculties, and to the consciousness of mind and soul. Medical science had demonstrated the fact, that by a judicious course of training, the idiot could be made a useful member of society; and even if that were a doubtful matter, it was incumbent on the community to provide an asylum for the wretched creatures who were now exposed to ridicule and mockery in the streets. Dr. Little seconded, and Dr. Brown supported the resolution, which was carried unanimously. Dr. Reed then submitted the rules and regulations which the provisional committee had drawn up for the organisation of the Idiot Asylum. Mr. Champneys, clergyman, spoke in support of, and moved their adoption, citing some interesting examples of the impression which religious truths made on the minds of the most idiotic. Mr. John Wilkes, Chairman of the Hanwell Lunatic Asylum, seconded the motion, and in doing so took occasion to observe, that the idiot population were not in such a state of destitution as might have been inferred from the speeches of those who preceded him, for that, on the contrary, a large proportion of those admitted into the lunatic asylum were afflicted with mental imbecility. The resolution was unanimously carried; and Mr. George Thompson, M.P., moved that several noblemen and gentlemen, whose names he read, should be requested to act as presidents, vice-presidents, and committee to the institution. Dr. Carlile seconded the motion, which met with cordial approval. After the appointment of a Board of Directors, and the transaction of some routine business, thanks were voted to his Lordship, and the meeting separated.

THE IRISH INVASION.—We noticed last week the increasing influx of paupers from the sister island, and remarked that those now arriving were of the worst class, and never likely, if indeed willing, to become a self-supporting population. This week we have to notice a further arrival of 1,723 men, 925 women, and 475 children—in all 3,133 persons, which make up the number, from the 1st to the 24th, of 11,772 persons, against 10,369, the total arrivals in all September. A still worse feature than any which we have hitherto noticed, we learn from Mr. Dowling, our head constable, attends the present immigration. Not only are the bulk of them of the most confirmed description of paupers, ragged, filthy, and half-starved, but from the moment of their arrival, the women and children especially, commence the practice of petty pilfering around our docks and in our streets. They are still more eager in their attempts upon anything in the shape of food—wheat, Indian corn, &c.; and as it is well known how large a portion of the warehousemen of the town and the porters about our docks are Irish, the public will not be surprised to learn that in many instances they are rather encouraged than suppressed by these parties in their depredations.—*Liverpool Standard.*

THE WHITTINGTON CLUB have taken the Crown and Anchor, Strand, to be fitted up as a West-end Club-house. At a meeting, held on Thursday, to promote the arrangement, it was stated, that out of the 700 £5 shares required to enable the Committee to take a Western Club-house, 660 shares had been taken up, and £449 paid. Before the meeting closed the amount of the forty shares deficient to complete the loan was subscribed in the room and exceeded by ten shares. It was understood that the Crown and Anchor would be taken and opened as the Western Club forthwith. Amongst those who have taken shares are Mr. C. Lushington, M.P., Mr. Jerrold, Mr. Mark Lemon, and Mr. Dickens.

LOITERING OMNIBUSES.—On Thursday, the magistrate at Worship-street adjudicated in a complaint against Thomas Williams, the proprietor and driver of a Hackney omnibus, preferred by Mr. Joshua Wilson, an elderly gentleman residing at Homerton. The complainant stated that, on the 17th ult., having pressing business in town, he got into the defendant's omnibus at Homerton, which proceeded at a fair pace until it reached Hackney, when it came to a sudden stop and remained there for upwards of twenty minutes. Witness, and the rest of the passengers, repeatedly remonstrated with the conductor, who first took no notice of their complaints, but ultimately expressed his determination to stop there a full half-hour. Witness attempted to make his way out, but was forcibly prevented by the conductor. Ultimately witness brought his whole weight to bear against the door on the inside, when the conductor suddenly let go the door, and he was precipitated head-foremost into the road. The conductor burst out a-laughing, and witness took the number of the vehicle, and completed his journey by another conveyance. Mr. Arnold said, had the conductor been brought before him, he should have visited him with the severest punishment it was in his power to inflict; the defendant himself he could only convict of loitering upon his journey, and for that he should inflict a penalty of 20s. and the costs, or one month's imprisonment in the House of Correction in default. The fine was immediately paid.

THE POTATO DISEASE.—Within these ten days the disease, which had almost disappeared from our vegetable market, has again manifested itself to an astonishing extent; and, in consequence, prices are rapidly declining. A few days ago the average price was about 20s. per boll; but now potatoes can be had from 7s. to 12s. In the Highlands, the disease appears to be rather more severe than elsewhere, for the greater quantity affected is said to come from that quarter. Heavy rains have all along been the precursors of a change to the worse in the potato.—*Perthshire Advertiser.*

RESTRICTION ON THE SALE OF ARSENIC.—As many sad catastrophes have been caused by the use of arsenic inadvertently taken for flour, in addition to the use that is made of it for the commission of crimes, it is proposed by the Council of Salubrity of Paris, that all persons who, whether for the destruction of vermin or otherwise, keep arsenic on their premises, should mix with it Prussian blue, to change the colour, and *nux vomica*, the bitterness of which would immediately cause the presence of arsenic to be detected by the taste of that ingredient. This is assuredly a step in the right direction on the part of the French Government, and a good example for our own to follow.—*Medical Gazette*

VOLUNTARYISM IN A CHURCH. — A sermon was preached on Sunday last, in St. Andrew's church Wakefield, in obedience to the Queen's letter, on behalf of the distressed Irish, when the *liberal* sum of four-pence halfpenny was collected.

CONVERSIONS TO POPERY.—On Thursday last, the Reverend A. Chirol, late of Clare-hall, Cambridge, and curate to the Reverend W. J. E. Bennett, perpetual curate of St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, with his wife, niece of Sir J. Ashburnham, Chancellor of the Cathedral of Chichester, and with his mother, were received into the Holy Catholic Church by the Right Reverend Bishop Wiseman. The solemn pontifical of Pope Gregory was used, and the Te Deum chanted to the music of St. Ambrose. The sacrament of confirmation was administered at the same time. — *Correspondent of the "Times."*

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC HIERARCHY IN ENGLAND.—All the documents relating to this long-debated question among the Roman Catholic clergy of England arrived on Tuesday. The scene of Dr. Wiseman's labours is not to be London, as was originally supposed. He is to be Bishop of Birmingham. The Right Rev. Dr. Walsh, heretofore Vicar Apostolic of the Midland District, which includes Birmingham, and to whom Dr. Wiseman acted as coadjutor, is now Archbishop of Westminster. The title of vicar apostolic is to cease, and the bishops are to be for the future called after their respective sees. The further division of England into sees, preparatory to an increase in the number of bishops, is still under the consideration of his Holiness. When that is definitely arranged, the number of bishops will be increased by four. There will, also, be one or two more archbishoprics created.

LYMINGTON.—NEW INDEPENDENT CHAPEL.— This beautiful and commodious chapel was opened for public worship on Thursday, October 28th. In the absence of Mr. D. Gunn, of Christchurch, who was prevented by indisposition undertaking the services, Mr. J. Hunt, of Brixton-hill, preached in the morning, and Mr. T. Adkins, of Southampton, in the evening. On the following sabbath, two most excellent sermons were preached by Dr. Jenkyn, President of Coward College. The congregations throughout were large to overflowing; and the collections amounted to £50. The building is universally admired. It is a neat early English structure. The front is built of white bricks, with Bath-stone dressings. And a bold portico, having a groined ceiling, with a decorated window at the back, gives considerable character to it. The extreme width is 43 feet 9 inches, and the length 69 feet. To the chapel are attached spacious school-rooms, capable of accommodating about 200 children, and intended for week-day as well as Sabbath-day instruction. On the spot is also erected a most commodious house for the use of the minister. The cost, including the purchase of the ground, is about £3,000.

FREE CHURCH AND GOVERNMENT AID.—A paragraph inserted by us in a late number, stating, that at the meeting of the Congregational Union in England, Dr. Alexander, of Edinburgh, warned his hearers of the probability of an offer of a *Regium Donum* to the Scotch Free Church, through the mediation of Mr. Fox Maule, has provoked the ire of some of the Free Church organs. The *Dumfries Standard* is kind enough to attribute the innocent act to our "notorious malevolence" towards the Free Church. The *Witness*, which, as our readers will perhaps recollect, is not over-particular in the use of hard words, and the imputation of "bad motives," implies that our statement is an invention. "We have great doubts," says the Free Church organ, "whether Dr. Alexander ever made the statement in question." All we can say is, that the statement, as we gave it, appeared in the report of the proceedings of the Congregational Union published in the *Patriot*. If it is incorrect, we shall with pleasure make known the fact—if Dr. Alexander did make use of such language, we believe he would not have done so unless he had had good ground for the warning—but if there is no probability of the offer being made, the Free Church organs ought to be obliged to us for giving them an opportunity to repudiate, *in toto*, any such arrangement—which they have not done—rather than to fall foul of us for making a simple statement.

THE PROTESTANT DISSENTERS' ALMANACK.—It is not our custom to allude to book-matters in this place; but we deem it a duty to call attention to the "Protestant Dissenters' Almanack," advertised in our columns to-day. It is not only a perfectly unique production, but its appearance is a significant sign of the times. In addition to the ordinary contents of such works, and denominational intelligence, it contains much information, and has several vigorously and ably written papers on the State-church question, calculatee to do the greatest service to Nonconformity. We shall be glad to hear, not only that it has that large sale which its cheapness alone ought to ensure it, but that Dissenters themselves make it a business to circulate it by thousands. This is due to the enterprising and spirited projector, and still more to the cause of truth and justice.

POSTSCRIPT.

Wednesday, November 3.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

The game which M. Guizot has been playing in Syria, in furtherance of the great project of his royal master, has been rendered completely and for ever futile by the simple but highly important resolve of the Sultan, that the protection of the Christians of the Lebanon shall be henceforth under the direction of a representative of the Holy See.—*Times.*

The King of Hanover had refused to grant an *exequatur* to M. Westphalen, because the Prussian diplomatist had abjured Protestantism, and become a Catholic.

Further accounts from Switzerland bring the details of the failure of the arrangement proposed between the opposing parties. The conference between the delegates of the Diet and the deputies of the Sonderbund, on the 28th, had no other result than to show the profound abyss which separates the two parties. The principal discussion turned on the question of the Jesuits, which the majority of the Catholic deputies vainly offered to submit to the decision of Pius IX. The propositions of those deputies, together with a motion demanding the disbanding of the federal army, were rejected by the Diet on the 29th, by the ordinary majority, whereupon the deputies of Lucerne, Uri, Schwyz, Unterwalden, Zug, Friburg, and Valais, declared their mission at an end, and having retired from the hall, departed in the evening for their respective cantons. The correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle* states, that the deputies of the League demanded the re-establishment of the great convents of Muri and Wettingen, and promised to send away the Jesuits on the 1st of January, 1849, and that the offer of an amicable arrangement was made simply with the view of gaining time. According to accounts received in Paris, the Diet had voted the measures of aggression against the Sonderbund, and hostilities would commence in a few days. The ambassadors of the various European Courts had left Switzerland—neither France nor Austria intending to interfere.

THE CHOLERA.—The report that the cholera had broken out in Moscow has, we are sorry to say, been confirmed: fifteen persons (viz., eleven men and four women) have been seized with it. They belong chiefly to the lower classes, and had been previously ill from eating fruit and being exposed to the weather; of these fifteen persons nine have died. The *Allgemeine Zeitung* of the 29th ult., says:—"The cholera is advancing from the east to the west, but as yet it has not reached a more westerly point than Ketsch, on the sea of Azoff. The winter will impede its progress, but not change the direction it has taken."

Intrigue is active as ever at Madrid. Narvaez and Christina are plotting against each other, and the chances are in favour of the wily Queen-Mother. The rough Narvaez is not obsequious enough for French purposes, and when he has done his work, will be flung aside as a used-up instrument—provided the thing can be done with impunity.

THE LORD MAYOR ELECT.—Yesterday, Mr. Alderman Hooper, the Lord Mayor Elect, was introduced by the Recorder of London to the Lord Chancellor, for the purpose of receiving the approbation of her Majesty as regards his election to the mayoralty.

Last evening the Lady Mayoress gave a ball upon a very large scale, her ladyship having sent out invitations to between 1,400 and 1,500 persons, including the families of the aldermen, common councilmen, and principal City officers.

THE FOG.—Last evening the metropolis generally was visited with one of the densest fogs that has occurred here for several years. All navigation by the various steam-boats, and other craft on the river, was suspended.

THE MONETARY CRISIS.—The fluctuations in the funds yesterday were considerable, in consequence of various rumours circulated; but the last price was the same as on Monday. In the Stock Exchange money was easy at six per cent., and out of doors one instance was known of first-class bills being discounted at seven per cent., the parties being also willing to take more upon the same terms. At the Bank of England there was an arrival of gold to the amount of upwards of £200,000. This makes nearly a million which has been received during the last ten days. The stoppage of the Shrewsbury and Market Drayton Bank (Adams, Adams, Warren, and Co.) was announced yesterday afternoon. It was a bank of issue, but its fixed circulation was only £9,700, and its liabilities altogether are believed to be insignificant. Mr. Warren (one of the partners) is a solicitor. Messrs. Masterman and Co. are the London agents. In London yesterday there was decidedly an improved feeling. No failure was announced, except that of Mr. S. S. Curtis, in the hide trade. The house was an old one, but the liabilities are not supposed to be at all large. The published statement of the affairs of Messrs. Barclay Brothers and Co. exhibits a nominal surplus of £8,987. The liabilities are stated at £389,504 16s. 1d. The settlement of the claims of the Mauritius bill-holders (to the amount of £100,000) would reduce the assets to about 14s. in the pound, but it is feared the dividend will fall considerably below that amount. The affair is to be wound up under inspection.

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON.—WEDNESDAY, Nov. 3.

The supplies of Grain and Flour fresh in this week are trifling, and our market to-day is very firm for both Wheat and Flour, an advance on Monday's prices having in some instances been obtained. Other articles without variation.

The arrivals this week are—English Wheat 2,150 qrs., foreign 2,920 qrs.; English Barley 1,640 qrs.; English Oats 180 qrs., Irish 2,800 qrs., foreign 1,840 qrs.; English Flour, 790 sacks, foreign 4,020 barrels.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED FOR THE FAMILY OF WILLIAM BIDWELL.

Mr. Ebenezer Clarke 5 0
Mr. Stallybrass and Friends, at Chesham .. 10 0

"G. P."—If you use the words "Dissenting Minister," the address will find him.

The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, NOV. 3, 1847.

SUMMARY.

The new Parliament is summoned to meet on the 18th inst. "for the despatch of divers urgent and important matters." As it has also been announced that the Queen's Speech will be delivered a week after, we may conclude that the sittings will be continued, with of course the intervention of short adjournments for the holidays, until the session is concluded. Of the measures likely to be brought before the House, all that we know for certain is, that Ministers will ask the sanction of the Legislature to the late measure of relief. This will of course open for discussion the whole question of our monetary system, when we shall have an opportunity of discovering how far the new and more liberal views which have been making their way out of doors are shared in by the people's representatives. The exigencies of Ireland point to the probability of a new loan for the relief of the people, and the introduction of a Government measure for improving the relation of landlord and tenant in that country; while Lord Morpeth's pledge and the approach of the cholera westward, render certain the speedy adoption of a comprehensive bill for sanatory reform. There is but one opinion as to the propriety of this early assembling of Parliament. In the absence of any definite information, let us charitably indulge the hope that this prompt acknowledgment of the magnitude of the present crisis may be regarded as an indication that Lord John Russell will prove himself to be "strong enough for his place," by propounding such bold, decided, and enlightened measures as are best fitted to relieve the nation from its monetary and Irish difficulties.

Passing from matters of speculation to matters of fact, it is gratifying to be able to record a decided improvement in monetary affairs. Notwithstanding the continuance of failures here and there, the accounts from the principal commercial towns indicate a revival of confidence, and a conviction that the severity of the pressure is passing away. The expected evil results of the ministerial announcement, predicted by the *Times*, are as yet invisible, and it is considered probable that the Bank of England will not need to avail itself of the relaxation of the law which the authority of Government has sanctioned. The facts which have come to light since the interference of Ministers, on the 25th ult., prove that it could not be avoided. The notable Currency Restriction Act of 1844—the pride of our statesmen and the pet of capitalists—would, if preserved intact, have overwhelmed us with certain ruin. From the Bank returns for the week ending Oct. 23, it appears that on that day the circulation stood at £20,300,000, the bullion was £8,300,000, and the reserve of the deposit department was only £2,000,000. "Suppose," says the *Morning Chronicle*, "a determination of the Government on Monday week, to let the law of 1844 take its course, what must the Bank have done, with deposit liabilities to the amount of £14,000,000, and with only £2,000,000 of cash to meet them? They must have absolutely shut their doors against all applications for loans and discounts. It is their first duty to take care of their own solvency and their own credit, and in such a position it would have been sheer madness to discount a single bill until, by letting the securities in hand run off for some days, they had recovered, if it were not too late, an adequate reserve. But if the Bank had been driven, by a strict enforcement of the law of 1844, to act thus during the week which has just closed, the panic must have ended in universal distrust and universal confusion." It is important that these facts should be borne in mind, in order that the country may not only perceive the danger it has escaped, but estimate at its real worth a monetary system which has nearly necessitated a universal stoppage of business. Meanwhile, the discussion of the general question proceeds with much satisfaction; and, in spite of the thunders of the *Times*, the conviction seems to be gaining ground, that the whole system must undergo a radical alteration. And when we hear of men, well-versed in monetary affairs, becoming converts to a liberal monetary system, and of bankers doubting "whether free trade in money is not as sound in principle as free trade in any other article of exchange;" denouncing, as "impracticable," "the project of making the amount of the circulating medium throughout the kingdom rise and fall in exact accordance with the stock of gold bullion in the Bank of England;" and calling for an issue of £1 and £2 notes—we may indulge the hope, that the time is not far distant when the gold monopoly will share the fate of the corn monopoly.

We need scarcely call attention to the evidence of the growing importance of the anti-state-church movement, to be found in the ample reports we have given of the meetings held last week in some of the principal towns of the West Riding of Yorkshire. At Leeds, at York, and at Bradford, the deputation from London received a most hearty and gratifying welcome. The leading Dissenters of this important district, almost without exception, have come forward to give their adhesion to the movement, and have formed efficient committees to agitate the question in their several localities. The cordial co-operation of individuals of such character and influence as Dr. Hamilton, and Mr. E. Baines, jun., of Leeds; of Mr. Leeman, of York; and of Mr. Alderman Forbes, of Bradford—gentlemen who have not hitherto taken any active part in the movement—as well as the interest in the question evinced by the working classes of the district generally, are pleasing indications of the progress of anti-state-church principles in the most important county in England. The important speech of Mr. E. Baines, jun., showing, from statistical evidence, the efficiency and superiority of voluntaryism for the support of religion, is deserving of special attention. At Wakefield an additional stimulus was given to the cause by a public discussion between Mr. Miall and a clergyman of the Established Church.

Mr. George Thompson, M.P., is, we are glad to observe, devoting his energy, talents, and increased influence to the agitation of a question intimately affecting the cause of humanity and the material interests of Great Britain. "Justice to British India" is the important object of his present labours. Many years ago the subject was brought under public attention, but the more urgent importance of the repeal of the corn-laws induced the advocates of the claims of our eastern empire to postpone their agitation for a time. The present period has been opportunely seized upon to recall the public attention to this vitally-important topic. The first-fruits of this resolution appear in a great meeting held on Tuesday last at the Eastern Institution, a brief report of which we have given in another column. This is to be followed by a series of meetings throughout the country, until the public are thoroughly informed as to the important bearings of free-trade with India, upon the condition and prospects of this country. Thus fortified, Mr. Thompson will be able to urge, with increased effect, his valuable collection of facts and arguments upon the attention of the House of Commons. In his admirable speech at the above meeting Mr. Thompson described the unlimited and undeveloped resources of India, and its peculiar adaptability to furnish us with an abundant supply of raw cotton, for which we are at present solely dependent upon the slave states of America. By the more general culture of this important article of manufacture, he showed that we should not only be extending our commercial intercourse with that vast empire, and promoting its prosperity, but that we should save several millions of our annual capital, render ourselves independent of foreign supply, and in the most effectual manner, help forward the extinction of slavery. The great obstacle to this desirable change is to be found in the bigoted and selfish policy of the East India Company, who, by the oppressive burdens imposed upon the soil and industry of the people, have hitherto frustrated all attempts to promote the cultivation of the plant. The more immediate object of the present movement is, "to require from the Legislature the immediate removal of all imposts which depress the agricultural energies and impede the commerce of the native population, and also the institution of a strict and impartial inquiry in India, into the condition of the natives, and into the conduct and the acts arising out of the peculiar government ruling over them, which affect their well-being and retard their prosperity." As we shall have other opportunities of going into the question more at length, we will add no more than to express a wish that the hon. member for the Tower Hamlets may meet with speedy success in his philanthropic object.

Elsewhere we have published a letter in reference to the position of Dr. Andrew Thomson, the honoured champion of Free Bibles, to which it is scarcely necessary to direct the attention of our readers.

THE LANCASHIRE PUBLIC SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.

An article in the *Manchester Examiner* of last week animadverts upon some remarks we deemed it seasonable to make, a short time since, on the reported proceedings of the Provisional Committee of the Lancashire Public School Association. The *Examiner* sets out by declaring its task of dealing with our arguments an "easy one;" and proceeds, through an article consisting of several paragraphs, without even attempting a logical reply. We should not have felt bound to pursue the matter further, were it not, that the Educational question, with the great principle it involves, is in danger of being frittered down to a mere controversy of more or less—a discussion of mood, tense, and person—and that no form in which it can be presented to the public mind is so likely to have this effect, as the one advocated by our able contemporary. We are anxious, therefore, to expose the unsatisfactory and weak points of the scheme, before it has taken any hold upon the people's heart. There is so much plausibility in the proposal of these gentlemen, that men are almost lured by it into an utter carelessness as to its ultimate and permanent practicability.

We suggest to the consideration of the *Examiner* a few thoughts which, although little likely to alter his views of the subject under notice, nor, indeed, seriously offered with any such expectation, may yet serve to convince him of the propriety of altering, to some extent, the form in which he submits this question to his readers. "It may be natural," says he, "to deplore the accession of an influential journal to the ranks of *those who are banding themselves in unconscious, though not the less injurious, opposition to the spread of a knowledge of the alphabet and the multiplication table*—but the far more useful course is to deal with the arguments by which it attempts to justify this inconsiderate proceeding." The passage we have marked in italics contains all the assumptions with which we wish to deal. We are fortunate, indeed, in catching them all in so close a connexion—done up in so small a space—concentrated into so quotable a sentence. We take it as it stands, and we shall aim, by means of it, to show our contemporary some of the positions which he ought either to abandon at once, or to make good by a more warrantable process than taking them for granted.

It may not be amiss for the *Examiner* to look again at his own figures of speech, and decide for himself whether he will take them "for better, for worse." "The alphabet and the multiplication table" are meant, we suppose, to represent the simplicity of that knowledge which the Public School Association would accept the aid of the State in imparting to the destitute. The public eye is invited to rest upon these twin representatives of elementary information, as if purposely to suggest how entirely free they are, and must be, from all theological kinships, and how legitimately, therefore, they may be taken by the hand by political authorities without exposing those authorities to the charge of intermeddling in the religious affairs of their subjects. But then, if nothing more than the merest mechanism of knowledge is intended to be given under the Public School Association's projected system, it appears to us that the apparatus is little needed, and that, like the hog under the shears, the Provisional Committee have yielded "more cry than wool." When the Voluntary Principle is charged with failure, the knowledge which it is alleged it ought to have communicated but has not, is very differently represented. "The alphabet and the multiplication table," ushered in to answer for themselves by Mr. E. Baines, have uniformly provoked a cry, "What! is that all?"—and State educationists have forthwith rushed into philosophical disquisitions, and pathetic descriptions, to show that this mere husk of knowledge, generally dealt out to the needy in dames' schools, can do nothing to stem the deep current of national depravity. Now, what we would fain learn is this—does the Lancashire Association confine its enterprise to the diffusion, by the aid of Government, of the simple mechanical elements of knowledge, or does it seek, by the agency it will employ, to dry up the too copious sources of crime and misery? If the first, it has no right to appeal to the public, in the name of sinking and degraded humanity, for it does not even propose to lift it out of its moral pollution. If the last, it has no right to boast of the simplicity of the instruction it aims to impart, and its ready severance from religious or even sectarian teaching. The *Examiner* may choose which it will of these interpretations of its own figure—but it cannot have them both, or either, as it may happen to suit its own convenience. The public has a right to know which it will abide by. The first article, we say, is so nearly provided for all who will have it, that we do not need the interposition of Government—the last, the real article that is wanted, we all refuse to receive from the hands of the State. In the one case, we don't want—in the other, we won't accept.

But the language of the *Examiner* involves another assumption. It takes for granted that organized resistance to State Education in any and every form is opposition to the spread of knowledge. It charitably acquits those who take part in it of *wilfully* obstructing the spread of education, and it modestly talks of the alphabet and the multiplication table—but the whole tone of its article is pitched on the presumption that Government provision, and a considerable extension of educational means in the country, are one and the same thing. Now, we wish to see this fairly made out. We do not believe it. We shall not, of course, deny that the interposition of the Legislature would give a powerful impulse to education, for a short time—just as stimulating drinks may help a man to get through one hour's work better than he could have done without them. But the real question is as to the permanent result. At the end of fifty years, for example, will Great Britain have to rejoice in, or to rue, Government aid? Will education be more coveted and appreciated then? will there be more of it? will it be of a higher kind than would probably have been the case under the Voluntary Principle? This is what we have never seen fairly settled. It is asserted with great hardihood—but all experience contradicts the assertion. When the springs of voluntaryism are impaired or destroyed, and the State has stereotyped its plan of education, it will be seen whether a bounty on schoolmasters operates otherwise than a bounty on clergymen, and whether Government, which has already turned out the worst

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purveyor, the worst road-maker, and the worst merchant in the world, will be the best schoolmaster.

We shall probably return to this question, for we have other things to say upon it.

LOUIS PHILIPPE'S SPANISH VICTIM.

WE would fain cherish the hope, that true domestic peace is the order of the day in the palace of Madrid. The royal pair, it is devoutly to be wished, are now thoroughly at one. The outward expressions of reconciliation and attachment, let a willing charity suppose, are but the symbols of the genuine yearnings of two loving and forgiving hearts. Why should not the balmy wings of sweet domestic repose shed their influence upon this royal couple?

Must we harbour suspicion? Must we lend our unwilling ears to dismal surmises? Why should hopeful dreams be disturbed? Why be envious of royal repose? What! must we be drifted down to the belief, that the magic change so strangely wrought is as lacking in princely love as it is likely to be in permanent union? Sad conclusion. But when we say that French gold has had some hand in this matter, we fear that our surmises will be but too surely warranted. This said foreign metal has certainly heretofore performed wonders; but we are somewhat chary in the belief, that, great as its virtues are, it is capable of cementing hearts destitute of affection. It may, indeed, buy off an adversary; but how it is to fire royal hearts with earnest love, remains to our dull understandings, at present, *in nubibus*. Skilful general, too, as Narvaez is, it is yet to us a profound mystery, by what mystic arts or military skill he could convert that in royal hearts into a reality, which, from the first, appears to have been so entirely artificial. If this wily leader has made so great a discovery in this, the nineteenth century, it will prove of no mean service to thousands of ill-mated souls. But we shall be vulgar enough to be incredulous until we see the upshot of this matter.

But to be serious. What an outrage upon the sanctity of human affections has been perpetrated through this unhappy affair. The young Queen Isabella must needs marry; but then she is to be bereft of all but the mere semblance of choice in a matter so deeply affecting her future happiness. Foreign powers are to find the suitors; and, more than this, to compel her choice, however remote from her affections. The whole thing is to be a mere political arrangement. Louis Philippe sees great advantage in a Spanish alliance by marriage. He has a son to be disposed of. To work he begins. By the *hocus pocus* of a pliant diplomacy, the affair is soon arranged, and the royal marriage is consummated. What has been the certain fruit of such a compact? Mutual alienation—quarrel—disgust—ending in a separation. But this must not be, else what becomes of the desired alliance? Again therefore to work are put, foreign agents, gold, manœuvre, and perhaps threat. The helpless young Queen, hemmed in on every side by French influence, surrenders at discretion. The farce of reconciliation is adroitly managed, and now we are made to believe that the royal pair are as happy as t l.edays are long.

The whole thing is utterly cruel and disgusting. Neither state necessity, much less royal avarice, can justify this infamous deed. Why is the heart of Isabella to be crushed in the bud? That which in private life would be hooted at as disgraceful, ought to find no shelter upon a throne. Such is the fruit of a terrible conventionalism. But since princes must by law, and perforce, marry princes only, and hollow compacts supplant the dictates of natural affection; and so long as the glitter of rank and station are judged preferable to the nobler qualities of mind and heart, we shall, out of the bitterness of our hearts, have to mourn over a repetition of scenes at once degrading to our nature and disgraceful to royalty.

"THE LITERATURE OF THE LOWER ORDERS."

A GOOD deal of interest is being excited by the publication of a series of papers in the *Daily News*, descriptive of "The Literature of the Lower Orders." The working classes of this country are not, it seems, after all, so universally uneducated as it has lately been the fashion to assert. The journal which has been foremost in deploring their ignorance, now discovers that "they have a literature of their own," which, moreover, obtains a prodigious and unexampled circulation. Of the character of these publications the above-mentioned writer gives a truthful and graphic delineation. The following is a description of one class of these issues of the people's press:—

"As our first illustrations, we shall take the various weekly publications of Mr. Lloyd, of Salisbury-square. This publisher issues, we believe, more than a dozen serials weekly—at a uniform rate of one penny each. Of all these, enormous numbers are sold. The greater portion of them consists of tales and romances, turning upon scenes of robbery and seduction, both of which are delineated with an infinite amount of particular details of an exciting and most unhealthy nature. The robber or the pirate is always made a hero—daring, impassioned, with resolute will, loose character, cruel, and yet chivalric after a rude fashion. These are the elements of an idol in this school of romance. The betrayed and culpable heroine is a martyr, the disgusting anatomy of whose mind is often attempted to be given, and in whose history and adventures the sympathies of the untutored, and especially female, reader are feverishly engrossed. All the incidents of the story are in keeping with the characters of the chief personages. Contact with such a literature is inevitable corruption. Nothing can prevent it. The readers of such works are of the lowest order of intellect and education; the more perilous it therefore becomes to them. We have good reason, too, for believing that those readers are, for the most part, *females*—country girls who are in service, and children whom the excitement, suffering, and evil example of crowded and busy towns have rendered prematurely conscious of the awakening instincts of womanhood. Such minds require the nicest care and the soberest intellectual aliment to preserve them in a healthy moral condition; instead of which, often simply from want of counsel and direction from persons of superior age and intelligence to themselves, they imbibe only such nourishment as may be afforded in this noxious literature, the intoxicating poisons of which tempt them to return to it again and again—as youths, under similar circumstances, are led on to habits of precocious inebriety—until all natural sentiment is stifled, true and simple womanliness of character lost, and a diseased moral feeling engendered, which is incurable in its subject, and perhaps requiring more than one generation to pass away before its effects can be finally eradicated."

In a second notice, the writer enters into a detailed account of a class of publications exercising "a still more insidious and deleterious influence":—

"They act more directly and openly upon the worst passions, stimulating them to precocious and unnatural activity, and exercise an unsettling and disturbing power over the moral consciousness of the reader. The former deal principally in the criminal—the latter in the licentious and the blasphemous; and in both to a much larger extent than those not conversant with them have any conception of, or than we, with a due regard to the properties, can make them acquainted with through the medium of our columns. We denounce the impurity, but we cannot soil our pages with it—not even as a warning. Those imperil the sanctity of the sentiments which hold men together in society, by investing crime, outrage, violence, disobedience to the laws, with the attributes of heroism and the sanction of success. These poison the very fountains of human life, by confounding conscience, confusing the sense of right and wrong, and by corrupting and inflaming those passions whose regulation and co-ordination with duty constitute the basis of morals, and offer the only guarantee for the peace and well-being of the social body."

In a word, the whole mass of this low literature is described—and there are, unhappily, abundant proofs of its truth—as "a chaos of corruption." What proportion of "the lower orders"—of those masses who constitute the industrious population of the country—is brought under the influence of this baleful pestilence, it is not easy to determine. Leaving out of consideration the stamped literature for the people, including the widely circulated Sunday newspapers, there are, it is affirmed, at least seventy of these cheap periodicals issued weekly. One of these has a circulation of 100,000, six others an average circulation of 20,000, and the remainder very large issues. It has been estimated that the total yearly circulation of the unstamped periodical literature of the working classes, of a *pernicious* character, may be set down at from 18,000,000 to 20,000,000. From these facts it is but too evident that the masses are, to a large extent, recipients of this debasing poison.

It is not our present purpose, in mentioning these melancholy facts, to trace their causes, or to point out their remedies. They may be new to the moralist and politician, but they have long been known to the Christian missionary. While the Church Establishment has been neglecting its duty, and calling out for more churches instead of filling those that exist, and while our statesmen have been devising schemes of national education to subdue the ignorance of the poor, the disease has been spreading with frightful rapidity amongst the lower stratum of society, and religious men have been attempting, on a small scale it may be, to grapple with the evil.

The main conclusion we would wish to deduce from these statements is, the utter failure of the State in its attempts to improve the mind and religion of society. The *Examiner*, alarmed at these disclosures of the *Daily News*, says:—"We ought to have instructional missionaries going amongst the humbler classes to show them the vice of gloating on horrors and crimes, and to deter them from such corrupting indulgences. It is the coarsest dram drinking of the mind, and we want a Father Mathew to check the frightful progress of intemperance." Is our contemporary oblivious of the fact that we *have* such a machinery, we cannot say at work, but in existence? Is not the State-church the church of the poor? are not its clergy the authorized "instructional missionaries" appointed—or supposed to be appointed—for this express purpose? For what purpose has so large an amount of national property been set apart for them, but for this? And, taking experience as our guide, looking back at the conduct of the Church during the centuries of her existence, are we right in concluding, that the evil will be cured by the appointment of another army of State missionaries? If not, as every unprejudiced man will allow, how are we to provide a remedy? By allowing free scope to voluntary agency—by taking out of the way those obstructions, of which the Establishment is the chief, which prevent the philanthropic and religious section of the community from feeling their responsibility, and from putting forth every exertion to implant purer and better principles in the minds of the masses.

The advocates of State education may learn one or two wholesome lessons from these deplorable facts. They may discover that their grand panacea for crime and immorality is not likely to prove so potent as they had imagined—that it is of more importance to look at the ultimate than at the immediate result. In this instance, the seeds of immorality, and of all that is sensual and debasing, are being sown broadcast in the hearts of *the more educated* of the working-class. We would not argue from this that education is an evil, but we can fairly deduce from it that the education, routine and mechanical as it *must* be, which is supplied by State agency, will do little of itself to make man what he ought to be. We find that in France and in Prussia, where State education has long been established, the bulk of the population are noted for their loose notions of morality, and their general disregard for vital religion. Let those whose imagination is so much excited by the brilliant promises of a system of national secular education, weigh these facts side by side with those just disclosed in connexion with the more educated of our labouring population, and we think they cannot but come to the conclusion, that State education is as little adapted as State religion to improve the national character, to suppress crime and immorality in our midst, or to make men better members of society.

MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.—A supplement to the *London Gazette*, published on Saturday evening, contains a proclamation proroguing parliament from the 11th to the 18th day of November next, on which day it is commanded to assemble "for the despatch of divers urgent and important affairs."

The Queen's speech upon the opening of Parliament will be delivered upon Tuesday, the 23rd instant.—*Morning Chronicle.*

THE EJECTED MINISTERS.—The rumoured approach of the session does not diminish the uncertainty as to what is to be done with Messrs. Hawes and Macaulay, Cam Hobhouse and General Fox; and, indeed, the silence of the ministerial press as to these destitutes would seem to encourage the idea of impending "organic changes" on the Treasury benches. The Under-Colonial Secretary appears to be destined to be the "unfortunate Miss Bailey" of the Ministry. It is said that, as in the case of Greenwich and Athlone, he had everything perfectly snug and ready for noiselessly stepping into the shoes of Mr. Barclay—the failure of whose house, it was presumed, would compel a vacation of his seat for Sunderland. But Mr. Barclay is as far as ever he was from being a bankrupt, and hasn't the least notion of the Chiltern Hundreds; while Colonel Reid, on whose seat for Windsor Hawes is also said to have set his longing eyes, cannot be prevailed upon to accept an appointment at Nova Zembla or Sierra Leone, or even to accompany Mr. Rajah Brooke to his new paradise of Sarawak, where primitive simplicity and rattlesnakes are reported to offer peculiar attractions to the philosopher who is disposed to enjoy them.—*Correspondent of the Liverpool Albion.*

COLONIAL-OFFICE.—James Stephen, Esq., one of the Under-Secretaries of State for the Colonies, is about to retire from the duties of that office, which he has discharged for so many years with unsurpassed zeal and ability. Mr. Stephen is entitled, by length of services, to his retiring pension, and fully merits, in addition, all the honours that can be duly conferred upon him.—*Observer.*—[Mr. Stephen was on Saturday sworn in a member of the Privy Council.]

LORD J. RUSSELL'S EXPECTED VISIT TO GLASGOW.—A communication has been received from Lord John Russell, expressing his extreme regret that the state of public business makes it impossible for him to visit Glasgow in the course of the ensuing month, with due regard to his official duties.—*Glasgow Saturday's Post.*

USEFUL INPROVEMENTS IN POSTAGE STAMPS.—The Post-office stamps having to be detached, either by cutting or tearing them from each other, great inconvenience is felt, particularly by those of extensive correspondence. To provide a remedy for the inconvenience thus experienced, a plan has been invented, by the aid of a machine, by which more than double the number of stamp sheets that is now annually required may be so minutely indented in the direction of the white lines, as to allow the stamp to be instantly detached from the sheet without the operation of cutting—perfect, too, in every respect. The contrivance will also enable purchasers to fold a sheet of stamps, or any less quantity, with unerring regularity, and in one-tenth of the time that is at present consumed in the operation.—*Herapath's Journal.*

POST-OFFICE REGULATIONS.—The following new regulations are about to come into operation at the Post-office. On and after the 10th of November next letters exceeding 4oz. in weight must be prepaid in money or in stamps. With this restriction any weight may be sent by post, but the packet must not exceed two feet in length, and nothing should be posted which will not bear the crush of the bags.

SUCCESSFUL RESULT OF THE HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY'S ARCTIC EXPEDITION.—It is known that in July 1846 the Hudson's Bay Company despatched an expedition of 13 persons from Fort Churchill in Hudson's Bay, under the command of Dr. John Rae, for the purpose of surveying the unexplored portion of the Arctic Coast at the north-eastern angle of the American continent. This expedition has now returned after having traced the coast all the way from the Lord Mayor's Bay of Sir John Ross to within a few miles of the Straits of the Fury and the Hecla—thus proving Sir John Ross to have been correct in stating Boothia Felix to be a peninsula.

STOPPAGE OF RAILWAY WORKS.—By the supension of railway works, consequent on the depression in the money market, it is believed that nearly 10,000 railway navigators will be put out of employment within the next ten days, within a distance of ten miles round Manchester.

ARRIVAL IN ENGLAND OF MR. R. W. EMERSON.—This gentleman arrived in Liverpool on Friday evening last, having sailed from Boston on the 5th of October, in the *Washington Irving*, which made a remarkably rapid voyage of seventeen days. Mr. Emerson reached Manchester on Monday morning, and proceeded immediately to London, where he will remain during the present week. We are glad to announce that two courses of lectures will be delivered by Mr. Emerson in Manchester—one at the Athenæum, and the other at the Mechanics' Institution.

DR. COOKE TAYLOR.—This gentleman, who is now in this city, has been appointed to the office of Statistician in connexion with the public departments.—*Dublin Correspondent of the Chronicle.*

THE MONETARY CRISIS.

Two more private banks failed on Thursday—the Salisbury, and the Shaftesbury and Hindon. They were both conducted by Messrs. Brodie, of Salisbury, who are also engaged in business as publishers. The Salisbury bank was established in 1811; its fixed issue was £23,335, and the amount of deposits held £70,000. The other bank was a similar affair, the issue being £9,831. It is believed that the private fortunes of the partners are more than sufficient to cover the liabilities.

The London house of Messrs. J. P. Howard and Co., Colonial brokers, stopped payment on Wednesday. The liabilities of the firm are stated at £75,000—£56,000 upon acceptances; the assets, in the shape of produce, £100,000. This suspension is a result of the late stoppage of the Messrs. Lyall's house.

Mr. Robert Gardner, a merchant, cotton-spinner, and manufacturer, of Manchester, suspended payment on Wednesday. In the circular issued to his creditors, Mr. Gardner says:—

Under the severe pressure of the times, I am most reluctantly compelled to inform you, that temporarily I am unable to meet my engagements: but I have to assure you that after my debts are paid in full I shall possess a very ample property. Permit me, therefore, to ask your indulgence till my resources are available, which will be in a comparatively short time; and in the meantime, I will prepare for your inspection and satisfaction a statement relative to all my engagements and property, and such statement shall be soon laid before you.

Mr. Gardner's assets are estimated at £400,000; his liabilities are not stated. He is the proprietor of two mills.

The firm of Messrs. R. and J. Farbridge, merchants, have also stopped payment in consequence of the failure of remittances.

Several failures are announced in Leghorn and Genoa. "At Leghorn," says the *Times*, "four houses have stopped; the parties being Morpurgo and Tedeschi, J. L. Valentin, D. Guttiers Pegra, and L. Arbib and Co.; the liabilities of the two former being rather considerable. At Genoa, G. Calcagno, a money-changer, is said to have absconded, and several parties are sufferers by him. The house of E. Alessio and Co., in the grain trade, has stopped. Its concerns are extensive, and a composition has been made of 35 per cent. Fratelli Barabino have resolved to wind up. At Trieste it is said, some loss will be sustained by the failure of Ventura, of Venice, but that it will fall upon parties who are able to bear it. Ventura, it is believed, will pay in full, or very near it."

Letters from St. Petersburg mention the failure of the house of C. Rivaz and Co., French merchants; whose liabilities are put down at £200,000.

The failure of Messrs. Joseph Vanzeller and Sons, of Lisbon, is also announced, as well as that of Messrs. Cockburn, Greig, and Co., at Oporto.

Further meetings have been held under the "estates" of the recently-fallen houses.

The accountant's report of the affairs of Messrs. Gower, Nephews, and Co., exhibited a deplorable example of mercantile mismanagement. While the debts are £450,832, the present valuation of credits is only £112,831. The statement shows assets sufficient only for a probable dividend of 5s. in the pound. The Mauritius has been the sink in which the capital of the house has been swallowed up. The cash advances direct to Messrs. Henry Barlow and Co. amount to £246,456. There are securities for these advances on certain estates, but they are not calculated to realize any considerable amount. The estate is to be wound up under inspection.

It is understood that remittances to the extent of about £21,000, nearly the whole of which were good, were received by the overland mail on account of Messrs. Lyall, Brothers, and Co., which will be available for the creditors under their estate.

Direct letters received from St. Petersburg, dated the 15th of October, describe business as very dull in that city, owing chiefly to the discredit caused by the failures in England. Letters received in Hamburgh state that "the Emperor of Russia had given orders to the Bank to assist every merchant that might be able to prove his solvency by his books—amongst others, the house of Thomas, Son, and Lefevre." In consequence of this, it was generally anticipated that the London correspondents of that firm would forthwith resume business.

Advices from Brussels, referring to the failures, six in number, which took place recently at Ghent, speak of improved prospects, owing to the Government having interfered to promote freer discounts on the part of the banks. Two or three of the suspended firms were expected to resume, one of them, P. Vincent, having already taken that step.

Effects of the Relief Measure.—Paltering, and clogged with an absurd condition as the suspension of the Bank Act of 1844 is held to be, it has nevertheless exercised a wholesome influence both in town and country. Communications from all parts attest the fact of returning credit and confidence. Banks let out more freely their before accumulated but hoarded reserves, and the pressure on the Bank of England, upon which the burden of supplying discounts and accommodation was almost individually cast, will be mitigated *pro tanto*.—*Daily News*.

The creditors of Messrs. Morley are promised 11s. in the pound, payable at three, six, and nine months. Of this estate there are nearly 400 creditors.

Gold has arrived in some quantities from the Continent for the Bank of England. There was £140,000 on Monday, and £100,000 on Tuesday, chiefly from Russia. From Rotterdam, £28,000; from Hamburgh, £60,000. On Monday £15,000 in gold was received from Rotterdam.

Considerable surprise has been felt by some persons that the Bank should, forty-eight hours after its announcement to lend money on stock at 8 per cent., have borrowed on the same security at 7½. This appears at first sight contradictory, and however advantageous the operation may be to the Bank, is not certainly calculated to maintain a revival of confidence in the new order of things.

The Money Market, Friday.—Prices fell during yesterday and this morning, until consols for account had reached 81¼, the lowest quotation of the week: a slight reaction to 81⅜ then occurred; but the price has again given way, and the last quotation was 81¼. The heaviness of the market to-day has been greatly increased by the knowledge of Parliament being summoned to meet for despatch of business on the 18th of November. It is now currently reported that an immediate funding of Exchequer Bills will take place, and that the Government have determined upon another loan to relieve the distress in Ireland. Exchequer bills have not been much affected; the lowest discount of the week was 37s., and the last quotation of to-day is 22s. We have already stated that the general belief that the Government communication was but the precursor of an order in Council for the suspension of cash payments: and as the Chancellor of the Exchequer was known to have been in communication with Sir Robert Peel, it was further believed that Sir Robert had been the adviser of the Ministry in the present juncture. The proceedings of the Bank have given quite a different complexion to the matter. It is now understood that *Sir Robert Peel has declined to advise; and that the Bank Directors have determined to limit their advances so as to avoid any infraction of the law, and consequently to render Parliamentary indemnity unnecessary.—Spectator.*

The Accounts of the Bank of England for the Week ending the 23rd instant, exhibit, as compared with those of the previous week, an increase in the following items — actual circulation, £958,690; rest, £18,903; seven-day and other bills, £43,494; other securities, £503,802. A decrease is observable in the following—notes issued, £124,155; bullion, £118,009; public deposits, £73,049; other deposits, £94,075; Government securities, £189,170; notes unissued, £1,082,845. The only notable circumstance is the decrease in the amount of unissued notes; and here, we fancy, will be found the cause of the Ministerial proceedings of last week. The decrease in the Government securities and deposits can be accounted for, the former by the loans of stock made to houses requiring assistance, as noticed in our last, and the latter by payments on account of the public service. The trifling decline of bullion may be referred to the home demand occasioned by the failure of country banks.

A meeting of parties interested in the Royal Bank of Liverpool took place on Saturday. It is stated in the report presented that the reason assigned for the suspension of the bank is a fatal error, committed by the *acting* director (Sir Thomas Branckner), with respect to the account of Messrs. Barton, Irlam, and Higginson, who, it is reported, owe the bank over £500,000. The committee, in the report alluded to, recommended a call of £100 per share to be forthwith made, in order that the claims of the depositors might be paid with as little inconvenience to them as possible. From a synopsis of the accounts laid before the meeting, it appeared that the total assets of the bank amount to £1,855,754 4s. 10d.; the total liabilities, £995,279 3s. 2d.; total estimated loss, £111,136 8s. 8d.; and assuming these several items to be correct, leaving a balance of capital of £749,338 13s A resolution calling on the directors to wind up the affairs of the bank was proposed; but after a rather stormy debate, it was carried by nine to one that a committee of seven shareholders should make further inquiries, and determine as to the expediency of resuscitating the bank or liquidating its liabilities, and report thereupon to another meeting, to be held on Saturday, Nov. 6. We doubt if the exposure of any similar disaster has ever brought to light facts which reflect so much discredit as attaches to the directors of this unfortunate concern. Sir Thomas Branckner, acting manager, in the absence of Mr. Chaffers, assumed almost the entire control of the bank's affairs, with but little reference to the opinions of his colleagues—a reserve which speaks badly for their sense of what should be considered a responsible charge.

Money Market, Monday Evening.—The advices generally from the country this morning were of so much more quiet, if not cheerful, a complexion, as, with the absence of any sinister event here, or even of reports of any accredited character, to have contributed to the greater steadiness of public securities. From 81¼ money price, and 81⅛ time price, Consols advanced after some fluctuations to 82 for money, and 82⅛ for time. These were the highest rates realised during the regular business hours. They left off, however, not so good, at 81⅛ to ¾ for money, and 81⅞ to 2 for account. Later in the day, after the close of the house, Consols again recovered, and were done for account at 82¼.

The suspension of Messrs. Coates and Co., American merchants, of Bread-street, Cheapside, with branches in Nottingham, Manchester, and Liverpool, was announced on Monday afternoon. For the last 15 years the firm have been extensive buyers of manufactured goods for the American market, and disappointment in the receipt of remittances is stated to be the cause of the stoppage. The liabilities of the house amount to about £100,000.

Liverpool, Saturday Evening.—The second week of the extreme financial crisis in Liverpool is now closed; and, fortunately, the curtain falls under circumstances more cheerful than those which attended the termination of last week. Good paper is, at least, received by the banks, though at heavy rates; and railway property is considerably enhanced in value. At Manchester, however, ruin has fallen upon several mercantile establishments. Among the houses announced are the following:—Messrs. Rodgett and Brierly, spinners, of Blackburn, with liabilities estimated at £70,000; Messrs. Swainson and Birchwood, with ample assets; J. Barton and Co., silk-dealers, £25,000 being the debt, according to report; W. Hartwright, twist, silk, and cloth agent; Inglish, manufacturer; J. Barton and Co., the assets being estimated at one-fourth of the entire liabilities of £20,000, and J. Gillow, manufacturer, of Preston, the latter having been involved in the suspension of Barclay and Co., in the City. The total liabilities, however, do not, it would appear, extend to any very large amount. From Glasgow, we have accounts of two suspensions of mercantile houses in that city; Messrs. Pearson, Wilson, and Co., foreign merchants, being the first,—and Kilgour and Leith, a shipping and West India firm, the second.

Liverpool, Monday. — There was a much better feeling on 'Change to-day, and the general opinion is that confidence is gradually returning. It is thought here that the Royal Bank will not be able to resume; it is the interest of the shareholders to reopen, but it is very doubtful if the £100 a share can be paid by several of them. Barton, Irlam and Higginson, in their statement, show 19s. in the pound, but it is believed the estate will not realize nearly so much.

Messrs. Cowan and Co., of Glasgow, commission agents, have suspended payment. Their liabilities are set down at £23,000.

The circulation returns for the last month exhibit one extraordinary result. During that period the total issues of all the banks had increased upwards of £952,000, while, as compared with the corresponding period of last year, the decrease is nearly *five millions and a half sterling*. The mere amount which circulation is shown to have diminished by the returns is, however, a very imperfect indication of what has really been the actual contraction of the currency, as no small portion of the notes represented as being in circulation are, in fact, locked up in the bankers' safes, in case of an emergency.

HOW IS THE SANATORY COMMISSION GETTING ON?—APPROACH OF THE CHOLERA.

(From the *Spectator*.)

The cholera is approaching with slow but steady march from the East; it will probably arrive in the winter; and it will still find us unprepared to meet it. Our cities are themselves depositories of disease; they contain the raw material of epidemics, miasma, and await the pleasure of the wind to give that foul air its specific virus.

"All the diseases of the zymotic class," says the Quarterly Report of the Registrar-General, just issued, "such as small-pox, measles, scarletina, typhus, influenza, and cholera—have the remarkable property of becoming epidemic. After certain intervals of time, in which they are fatal to a smaller or greater number of persons in different places and seasons, great multitudes are suddenly attacked and destroyed in a given locality; the disease in this intense form involves the neighbouring population, spreads around whole regions, and sometimes travels over the tracks of human intercourse through the world. Little is known of the immediate chemical or vital causes of epidemics; but in given circumstances, where many are immersed in an atmosphere of decaying organic matter, some zymotic disease is invariably produced: where there is starvation, it is most frequently typhus; cold, influenza; heat, it is cholera, yellow fever, plague. At the mouth of the Ganges, of the Nile, of the Niger—in London, particularly up to the seventeenth century—in camps, in barracks, in ships, in prisons formerly—in Ireland, in Liverpool, in all our towns now—the circumstances in which zymotic diseases become epidemic may be witnessed. . . . Influenza appears generally to become first epidemic in Russia; cholera in India."

The typhoids we have with us always, ready to become epidemic on the occasion of any depressing influence—bad weather, failure of employment, poverty, failure of food.

We are not only unprepared to meet the coming enemy, but in every great centre of disease we see an unusually bad state of health. The mortality throughout the country has diminished since it reached its maximum in the March quarter of 1847 (56,000); but in the great towns it is very bad indeed. "In London," says the Registrar-General, "there has been no sign of improvement: 10,987, 12,601, and 13,187 deaths, were registered in the September quarters of 1845, 1846, and 1847:" the zymotic class of disease advanced in those periods from 2,409 in the September quarter of 1845, to 3,234 in that quarter of 1846, and 5,061 in the present quarter. Epidemic fever has been more fatal in Manchester than in London; Birmingham and other large towns to the North have suffered; and Liverpool, ill-built, open to the Irish irruption, has been all but decimated: at the last census its population was 223,054; in the September *quarter* of 1847 the deaths were 5,669—the total of deaths in the three quarters being 13,546. From Scotland there are no such accurate returns as those under our Registration Act; but we know how Glasgow has been visited, we know how it is the settled abode of fever; and from Edinburgh we have grievous complaints. Dublin is the capital of Ireland and its fever.

What steps have we taken to arrest the coming cholera—to make a clear deck for meeting it? None. London is in as bad a state as ever it was since sanatory reformers began the arduous task of attempting to cleanse it. This week we have more complaints of that "Enon chapel" whose foundation is a mass of rotten human flesh; and on Monday night there is to be a ball in the chapel at sixpence a head! These old and overloaded grave-yard nuisances have been known for years; but they are kept up, and the mortality-tables show the results. The Registrar-General, in his current report, denounces the bad construction of Liverpool—

Liverpool, created in haste by commerce, by men too intent on immediate gain—reared without any very tender regard for flesh or blood, and flourishing while her working population was rotting in cellars—has been severely taught the lesson, that a part of the population, whether in cellars or on distant shores, cannot suffer without involving the whole community in calamity.

The fever is not confined to the squalid parts of the town, nor to the lazarettos on the Mersey, but is "getting more prevalent among the upper classes."

Edinburgh—the "own romantic town" of Walter Scott, and proud to exhibit the poet's most splendid monument—is in a vile condition. The arrangements for drainage are miserably imperfect, or in some parts altogether wanting. Romantic Edinburgh, so beautiful to the outside view, is full of rottenness within. The city contains some seventy-eight "killing-booths, used by butchers, besides large clusters of slaughter-houses," with many other killing-places, irrespectively of the practice among butchers of killing smaller stock in their back-shops, or cellars. The city is dotted with knackers' yards, places for the manufacture of manure, ill-kept tanners' yards, &c. Large piggeries exist in many parts: pigs, often fed upon soup made of carrion, are

kept in the lower portion of private dwellings. "It may sound strange in the ears of denizens of the New Town to be informed, that between St. Stephen's Church and the New Academy is a favourite spot for the rearing of pigs." And the abominable practice which has made infamous the Edinburgh cry of "Gardez l'eau!" still braves feeble attempts at repression, surviving in those back courts and streets where it is peculiarly noxious. The law provides no efficient power to cope with these nuisances.*

We need not look out for special evidence as to the state of Dublin in these respects—it is the capital of Ireland.

What has been done? A commission has been appointed to investigate and inquire—in the metropolis! As if the metropolis were the only part in danger. Besides, the commission includes men who *have* been investigating and inquiring, and who have plans ready prepared. It is not inquiry that we now need, but action. The time to spare between this formidable report by the Registrar-General and the actual arrival of the deadly visitant will probably be brief; we cannot make quite ready to meet it—we cannot, in a season, reconstruct streets and drains with a view to prevent the plagues of the nineteenth century: but we might do much in the way of mere regulation. Mr. Herepath suggests one course for cholera, founded on a principle which our correspondent Mr. Sheward calls in question: the public wants some settled authoritative guide. But beyond that, it is desirable to make our abodes as clean and clear of disease as possible—the cholera will be quite enough of itself. Now we have no wish to waste words in reproaches about the past, provoking as it is to see the Government of this great country unable to cope with the notorious nuisances of the basest and squalidest kind—the rulers of the British empire slinking away before knackers and low lodging-house keepers: but our want of earlier preparation should at least be in part expiated by the utmost exertion to do what can be done now. Some of us must die of this coming cholera, but do not let our officials leave the public unprepared for another. The least they can do is to clear the path of the Sanatory Commissioners, and fill their hands with power sufficient for the occasion.

Glen Tilt Obstruction.—A public meeting of the inhabitants of Perth was held in the City-hall, on Tuesday evening, the Lord Provost in the chair, to take into consideration the recent attempt of the Duke of Atholl to stop the road through Glen Tilt, and to adopt measures for the protection of the rights of the public. The meeting was very numerously and respectably attended. There could not be fewer in the hall than from 1,500 to 2,000 individuals. On the large platform, which was crowded, there were the Lord Provost and magistrates, nearly all members of council, the deacons of the various incorporations, the members of the police and water commissions, besides a large number of private gentlemen unconnected with any of the public bodies. Resolutions were passed expressive of the right of the public to a passage through Glen Tilt; calling upon the meeting to afford every possible pecuniary aid to the Edinburgh Society; and that a subscription should be immediately set on foot for raising the necessary funds, to carry out which a committee was appointed. The speakers strongly adverted to the necessity of assisting the association in Edinburgh for preserving the public right of roadway in Scotland.—*Witness.*

Suicide in St. Paul's Cathedral.—An extraordinary suicide has been committed in St. Paul's Cathedral. At noon on Thursday, a gentleman, apparently between fifty and sixty, paid for admission to the Whispering Gallery; and he was observed to walk round it for a full hour. About one o'clock, when only two ladies were in the gallery besides himself, he went to the North-east side, opposite the entrance-door; two masons at work beneath saw him climb over the rail, and in a moment drop from it: he turned over once in his descent, and fell just within some iron railings. Of course he was killed on the spot: his head was much shattered. It was afterwards ascertained that the deceased was Mr. William Davison, a solicitor of Bloomsbury-square: his mind had been affected for some time past.

The Birmingham Murder.—Ann Wilkes, the woman who murdered her four children at Birmingham, died on Thursday morning, in the Queen's Hospital. Before her death, she made a full confession, and stated that her children died without a struggle.

The Attempted Assassination in the City.—At the Central Criminal Court, on Wednesday, John Ovenstone, upholsterer, was tried for shooting Mr. George Crawley. The circumstances of this case were detailed before; and the evidence for the prosecution was conclusive. The accused, who had of late years suffered many pecuniary losses, had been assignee to a bankrupt, and had thus become liable for wines supplied by Mr. Crawley; Ovenstone not having discharged the claim, Mr. Crawley proceeded against him, put an execution into his house, and sold his goods. While agitated by this distressing state of things, Ovenstone went to the wine-merchant's office in Mark-lane, obtained an interview, and fired a pistol at him, the bullet lodging in Mr. Crawley's head. The prisoner also fired a pistol at his own head, wounding himself. Mr. Crawley's wound was for some time considered to be dangerous. The defence consisted in an attempt to prove that the man was insane when he committed the assault. Many witnesses spoke to his kind and humane character generally, and to the depression of mind which had resulted from his misfortunes; he had acted on several occasions as if deranged; and his sister had thought of placing him under restraint. Dr. Conolly, Dr. Winslow, and Mr. Streeter, a surgeon, who had heard the evidence and had examined the prisoner in Newgate, gave it as their opinion that he was not in a sane state of mind when he assailed Mr. Crawley. After deliberating for half an hour, the Jury returned a verdict of acquittal, on the ground of insanity.

* See a remarkable pamphlet published by Messrs. Adam and Charles Black, and Messrs. Blackwood and Sons—"Nuisances in Edinburgh, with Suggestions for the Removal thereof: addressed to the General Commissioners of Police. By Alexander Murray, Inspector of Lighting and Cleaning."

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

On Friday the Cabinet of the 29th of October completed the seventh year of its existence, and the occasion is naturally seized upon by the journals to pass in review the principal acts of the Cabinet during that period. Of the original Cabinet, as formed on the 29th of October, 1840, only three members remain—M. Guizot, now the Prime Minister; M. Duchatel, the Minister of the Interior; and M. Cunin Gridaine, the Minister of Commerce. The whole of the members of the Cabinet dined with the King at St. Cloud, in honour of the day.

The editor of the *National* has appeared before the juge d'instruction, and been informed that the seizure of that journal of the 21st took place on account of one of its articles containing the offences, first, of having caused the blame incurred by the acts of the Government to ascend to the King; second, of having attacked the form of government established by the charter of 1830; third, of having been offensive to the royal person; fourth, of having adhered to another form of government than that which is established.

New reform banquets are announced in the papers, but the Government is preparing for any more dangerous demonstration of public opinion. The two new forts of Canonville, commanding the valley of the Marne, to the right and left of St. Maur (close to Paris), are nearly completed. Moreover, the fort of Gennevilliers, whose fire will cross those of Mont Valerien and La Briche, will be constructed in 1848, and cost about 5,000,000f. When these shall be completed, the Government may be said to have the power of hermetically sealing up its good city of Paris.

SPAIN.

Proceedings of the Queen Mother.—Christina has not lost time in indemnifying herself completely for whatever disbursements she may have made on the late occasion. She has been allowed to change her annual pension of three millions of reals for a capital of 180 millions of Three per Cent. Stock; in other words, to exchange a life annuity of three millions for a permanent annuity of 5,400,000 reals, so that she is a gainer of 2,400,000 reals per annum, besides the difference between a life and a permanent annuity. The outcry raised against this barefaced shame has, however, compelled the Government to suspend the execution of the order. Señor Jose de la Bena y Aguayo, the Intendant of the Royal Household, has written a letter to the *Espanol*, stating that only fifty millions of Three per Cent. Stock have entered the coffers of the royal household; that the Government still owes the remainder; and that these fifty millions are now lying untouched in the said coffers. Christina is by degrees regaining her former influence in the palace.

Another Ministerial Movement has taken place at Madrid. The advices we have received to the 25th ult., announce that General Narvaez has resigned the portfolio of foreign affairs, and is succeeded by the Duke of Sotomayor, former minister at London; and that the ministry of marine, held *ad interim* by General Cordova, Minister of War, is given to M. Beltrando de Lis. Narvaez still retains the presidency of the council, without a portfolio. The appointment of these two persons is understood to be the result of a private agreement between Narvaez and Maria Christina, as she insisted on having her own private interests represented in the Cabinet; and no one could be better selected for that object than Sotomayor, who is known to be her creature.

General Serrano, it appears, had not been permitted to take possession of the government of Grenada. A letter from Seville states that he had passed through that city, accompanied by an officer of his staff, and escorted by a troop of cavalry, on his way to Cadiz, where he was to be embarked for the Canary Islands.

Mirall, an opera singer, was a few days since arrested, and taken off to Valencia. He was in the habit of coming and singing in the apartments of the palace, but he was never there alone with their royal occupant. The stories which are circulated to sink the Queen's character are so ridiculously extravagant (not to treat the matter angrily), and the circulators have such an obvious political motive in these monstrous forgeries, that they overleap the purpose of the inventors, and are rejected by the most gaping *gobemouche*.

A Barcelona letter of the 24th ult. announces the return of General Concha to that city, after a fruitless campaign against the Carlist bands in the mountain districts of Catalonia. The *Fomento* states that the Cabecilla Greno, one of Cabrera's best officers, was operating in Lower Arragon, and that a body of 260 or 300 insurgents had lately crossed over to the right bank of the Ebro, above Fayos, in order to join that chief.

It was reported that Narvaez had written a very friendly letter to Espartero, offering him the embassy in London; the rough but astute soldier Minister wishing to disarm as many antagonist influences as possible.

PORTUGAL.

By accounts received from Lisbon to the 22nd ult., it appears that the municipal elections had taken place on the 15th, and that the Cartistas of Costa Cabral's party had then carried them by an immense majority. A protest had been presented to the Government against illegalities committed to secure the formation of the present list of voters.

There were rumours of a modification in the Ministry.

So crippled was the Government for means, that it had contracted a loan, to be repaid in a month, through the Custom-house, at fifteen per cent. for the time.

The Duke of Palmella's arrival, on his way with his family to Madeira, had caused much speculation and watchfulness among the Cartistas.

SWITZERLAND.

The following are the decisions taken by the Swiss Diet in the sitting of the 24th ult.:—1st. To complete an efficient force of 50,000 men, to be put under the command of General Dufour. 2nd. That the troops to be raised by the several cantons shall be maintained at the common charge of the Conferation, being, in fact, esteemed federal troops. 3rd. That the executive government be authorized to raise, by loan or otherwise, the funds necessary for the due maintenance of the army and for the prosecution of the war. 4th. That the general-in-chief be authorized to augment the above force of 50,000 men, if he shall consider that circumstances require an increase.

Private letters from Berne, of the 27th ult., announce that since the Diet has issued a decree calling out 50,000 troops, the greatest activity prevailed in the staff department, and the last orders for the levy of the entire effective force had been given. On the afternoon of the 26th orders had not been issued for the troops under arms to march, but the greater number of the cantons had anticipated the orders of the Diet. Zurich, Argau, and Thurgovia, had placed their first contingent under arms. Vaud had levied fourteen battalions; Soleure and Glaris each one battalion, and Berne will have, on the 28th of October, fifteen battalions under arms.

The cantons of the Sonderbund on their side were not idle. Not only had they rendered several roads impracticable and placed mines under different approaches, but they were daily increasing their army. They had raised redoubts and armed them with cannon, and they had occupied the fortress of St. Maurice in the Valais, which belongs to the Confederation. Schwytz had taken a menacing attitude with respect to St. Gall, and it had made an attempt to overthrow the Government of the latter canton, in which it failed. The federal representatives had all returned to Berne after their unsuccessful expedition. As regards the disposition of the people in the cantons of the Sonderbund, the population of Uri, Schwytz, and Unterwald, are firmly determined to make an obstinate resistance to the Diet as well as in the Upper Valais, as they believe their religion and their hereditary liberty to be at stake, and there is no doubt but that they will defend themselves valiantly if attacked. In the canton of Uri the population has uttered the most furious threats against the federal representatives. The population of Zug, Lucerne, Friburg, and the Lower Valais, who use the French language, are less disposed to fight. In the last-mentioned canton the Commander-in-Chief was obliged to disband an entire battalion, and two other battalions proposed a toast to the Confederation.

Letters from Berne, of the 28th ult., state that the deputies of the League (Sonderbund) has proposed to the Diet to dissolve their union, provided the Diet would guarantee to the cantons forming the League full religious and political liberty, and maintain the rights guaranteed to their religious institutions by the 12th article of the Federal Pact, and that the Diet should be convoked for the 28th (ult.) To this proposition the President replied, that to the assembling of the Diet he had no objection; but that the other articles of the proposition were inadmissible. The Deputies (of the Sonderbund) subsequently proposed to present other terms at a conference to be held on the evening of that day (28th.)

It was thought that the Deputies of the League were the more solicitous for an amicable arrangement of the matters in dispute from having learned that the Vorort had received a despatch from the Government of Zurich announcing that the Austrian Ambassador, on asking for his passports, had given an assurance that his Government would not interfere in any war that might arise between the parties.

The *Morning Chronicle* announces that, advices have been received at the French capital from Berne, by extraordinary courier, up to the 29th ult., with the news that, in a secret sitting of the Diet, that body had definitively decided in favour of war, and that an attack on the Catholic cantons was to commence forthwith.

The same journal also states that, the King of the French presided in person at the Cabinet Council, held on Wednesday, at St. Cloud. The question of an armed intervention in Switzerland was again discussed, and was, it was said, advocated by M. Duchatel and M. Guizot. The Minister of War did not share the opinion of his two colleagues on some essential points. At all events, the King is disposed to employ every possible means towards effecting a reconciliation, conjointly with Austria. The French commercial cities in the vicinity of Switzerland, such as Lyons, Dijon, Valence, Grenoble, &c., complain of an interruption of their intercourse with that country.

ITALY.

Letters from Rome of the 20th announce the return of Cardinal Ferretti to that city. The population went out to meet him, and accompanied him to the Quirinal. A deputation presented an address, in the name of the population, to the Cardinal Secretary of State, praying him not again to absent himself from Rome, and to dismiss from the public administration certain individuals who employ all their efforts to neutralize the good intentions of the Pope and his Minister.

Count Bresson, the French ambassador at Naples, arrived at Rome on the 19th ult. Lord Minto was hourly expected.

The Pope has requested that the sums subscribed for the erection of monuments to him throughout his states shall be applied to the more useful purpose of erecting an asylum for aged persons at Rome.

Letters from Turin of the 25th ult. mention some popular disturbances, which ended in the arrest of some of the people. The agents of the police, assisted by the carbineers, interfered, and dispersed the people without serious consequences. The brutality of the soldiers on this occasion had produced much irritation, and it was apprehended that disturbances would take place at the fair of Moncalieri, held in the neighbourhood of Turin, which was to commence on the 24th. The King had been confined during several days by illness, and bled four times. He was, however, much better on the 25th. At Nice a similar manifestation of sympathy for the Pope was made in the evening of the 21st ult., and it was said that, on the following day, General de Maistre, Governor of the city, had resigned that post. At Genoa some agitation likewise prevailed on the 22nd, and to that circumstance was ascribed the sudden departure, on that day, of the Prince de Joinville, with the Titan steam-corvette and the Jena ship of the line, which had been lying in the bay since the 17th.

The inhabitants of the little province of Lunigiana, which, under the Treaty of Vienna, is to be separated from Tuscany and annexed to Modena, are very averse from the change. They had sent a deputation to the

Grand Duke, with a moving appeal, praying that he would negotiate for their retention under his government. The people appear resolved to oppose all attempts at possession by the troops of Modena and Parma, and have already destroyed the bridges and parts of the roads, to prevent the arrival of artillery. The people of Leghorn have energetically petitioned in behalf of Lunigiana. A letter from Florence of the 22nd says:—"The cession of Pivizzano and Pontremoli continues to excite an increasing agitation at Leghorn, Pisa, and the mountains of the Pistolese. Armed volunteers, to the number of 2,000, are ready to lend a vigorous assistance to the threatened provinces. There has been an imposing meeting held in the mountains at Radda, at which M. Guitera Vozze, M. Fabrini, M. Léoni, and other influential orators, spoke with great effect, so that all present swore to die, if necessary, in defence of the provinces. The Tuscan Government, however, holds out a hope that it will be able to repurchase Pontremoli and Fivizzano."

The *Patria* announces that the King of Piedmont had adhered to the commercial league into which Rome, Tuscany, and Lucca, had already entered.

The *Nouvelliste* of Marseilles gives a letter from Naples, dated Oct. 21, in which the most deplorable picture of the condition of that country is given. The Baron of Longobucco, one of the chiefs of the Calabrian insurgents, had been taken, with nine of his companions. The King was reported to have ordered the Baron to be shot, and his companions put in irons. Jean André Romeo was then the only surviving chief, and where he was no one knew. The unfortunates who had been outlawed in Sicily by General Landi, and for whose assassination a reward of 300 ducats per head was offered by the Government, had escaped from the country, the people preferring to the rewards the risk of their own lives for aiding their escape. The insurrection in Calabria was said to be virtually suppressed, the numbers of the royal troops being incomparably greater than any force the insurgents could muster against them.

The atrocities reported to have been committed by the Neapolitan Government against the insurgents produced so much irritation at Leghorn that the populace attacked the office of the Neapolitan consul, and tore down the royal arms of Naples from over the gate, and trampled them under foot.

NEW ZEALAND.

Letters from Wellington describe the renewal of troubles with the natives. Early in June a swarm of them made a descent on Wanganui in broad daylight, plundering the unfortified houses in the town. A steady fire was kept up from the gun-boat and stockade, and 4,000 shots were interchanged during the day. At length, while engaged in disputing over some booty in Mr. Churton's house, the two leaders of the raid, chiefs Maketu and Tutua, were shot at the same instant. The Maories then retired.

Governor Grey was quickly on the spot, in the Inflexible, and landed a reinforcement of 180 men. Additional parties were sent from Wellington in the Calliope. With this force Governor Grey proceeded up the river in pursuit of the marauders. He had brought with him the great chief Te Whero-Whero, Tomate Waka, and John Hobbs. The native force numbered about 700, ours being nearly as large. On the 17th June no impression had been made on the enemy; and although 10,000 rounds of cartridges were fired, not more than thirty Maories had been hit. The troops returned to Wanganui every evening, followed each time by the natives. The impunity of the Maories is ascribed to their great dexterity; no sooner does one see the flash than he throws himself upon the ground, and thus eludes the ball. They are not so successful in hitting, from the habit they have of using over-charges of powder. Altogether the operations appear to have had an air of weakness.

Governor Grey had consented to release Rauperaha under certain conditions of restraint. "Tomate Waka and Te Whero-Whero are to become bail for him. He is to be taken to Auckland with Charley, one of his chiefs. Te Whero-Whero is to detain him at Waikato until the country is quiet, and on receiving an order from the Governor, will release him. There are various opinions upon this measure; individually, I consider it a very bold stroke of policy in Captain Grey, and if it succeed (as from minute inquiry I believe it will), it will do more to quiet the country than five battles."

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

Independence of the Society, or Leeward Islands.—Mr. J. J. Freeman, one of the secretaries of the London Missionary Society, has forwarded to the *Patriot* an important communication from the South Seas, containing an account of the actual declaration by the officers of the British and French Governments, of the independence of the Leeward Islands, Raitea, Huahine, Borabora, &c., made to the chiefs of those islands; those officers giving them, at the same time, a flag recognizing their national independence. The account is extracted from a letter by a missionary at Corabora, dated May 17, 1847.

The Anti-slavery Cause in France.—The French Society for the abolition of Slavery, has just issued a circular, the object of which is the formation, in the chief towns of the kingdom, of abolitionist committees, having for their end the association of the greatest number of citizens in efforts for the total and immediate abolition of slavery. "We insist," says this document, "on total and immediate abolition, because the Society, after having maturely considered all the systems of emancipation, are convinced that the simultaneous mode is of all modes the surest, the most regular, the most favourable to general interests, the only one without danger." This principle having been adopted by the Society, all the French abolitionists are now agreed on the course to be pursued; and it will be embodied in the draft of a petition which the corresponding committee for the abolition of slavery intend forthwith to prepare for signature by the friends of this great cause.

Epoch in the History of Holland.—The meeting of the States-General, at the Hague, is expected to form a remarkable epoch in the history of Holland. The King, although with much reserve, has signified in his speech that the constitution of Holland shall be re-examined, without hindrance on the part of his cabinet, and that its unsound provisions shall be reformed. By this promise he opens a door for re-considering every grievance, and affords an opportunity to the friends of Holland to suggest important alterations in foreign and colonial policy. Indeed, the affairs of the colonies are so much mixed up with the financial doings in Europe, that they cannot be separated; and, if we are not misinformed, a desire to put the trade with the East upon a sounder footing is one motive which has induced the liberal party to press the revision of the constitution.—*Daily News.*

At the sitting of the Bavarian Chamber of Deputies on the 18th, a motion for the total abolition of lotteries was unanimously adopted.

The Congress of German Jurists recently assembled at Hamburgh have brought their deliberations to a close with the following resolution respecting the press:—"The Assembly of German jurists declare that the German people, by virtue of the promises held out in the Act of Confederation, has a perfect right to the liberty of the press, and consider that the German people is fully capable of making use of that right. The members will do all in their power to put the German people in possession of the liberty of the press."

The German Railroads.—By the opening of the railroad from Hanover to Hamm, through Minden, which took place on the 15th ult., the direct communication between the east and west of Germany is completely established. The German railroads, which now form one continuous line, extend in length to 1,001 French leagues, and form five-eighths of the total extent of railroads now worked in Germany, the full extent of which is 1,595 leagues of France.

The Cholera.—The *Universal Gazette of Prussia* publishes the following letter of the 17th from St. Petersburg:—"The cholera makes fresh progress on the two directions which it is following in Russia. It has just broken out in the Governments of Simbirsk, Kazan, Nijni-Novogorod, Riasan, Poltowa, and Tamboff. Thus far, it does not appear disposed to spread on the side of Podolia and Gallicia, and it even appears to have very little intensity in that neighbourhood. In that direction it has only shown itself on one point, at Ickaterinoslaf, where it traversed the Dnieper. Without counting Georgia, Caucasus, and the country of the Cossocks of the Black Sea, it already reigns in sixteen governments. On the 30th ult., it broke out at Moscow." A letter of the 23rd from Kiel, in the duchy of Holstein, says:—"In the village of Warnau, near to the town of Preetz, a peasant named Hingst, aged thirty years, was attacked the day before yesterday with Asiatic cholera, and died after thirty hours' suffering. The medical man who attended the deceased, Doctor Sandnecht, of Preetz, has published details of the progress of the malady of Hingst, in the weekly journal of that town, and in the *Kiel Correspondent*. This is the only case of cholera which up to the present time, as far as we know, has yet been observed in our country.—*Galignani.*

Immigration from the South Sea Islands to New South Wales.—By the "Velocity," which arrived in Sidney on Tuesday last (says the *Parramatta Messenger* of Saturday, April 24), Mr. Benjamin Boyd has imported sixty-five young men from various islands of the New Hebrides group; and a careful inquiry into the circumstances of their importation, and lengthy conversations with the men themselves, enable us to express our firm and sincere convictions of the success of this most important experiment. This must certainly be regarded as a new era in the pastoral history of New South Wales. Captain Kirsopp is of opinion that the men, by common firmness and kindness, may be induced to do a moderate quantity of work equally as well as any European, and at less than one-third the cost. Their ages vary from fourteen to twenty or twenty-five. He explained to them the nature of their agreement. On getting to sea he found several, not engaged, had hidden themselves in the cabin tops, and under the boat-covers; nor can it be wondered at, when we consider that, for more than eight months out of the year, the inhabitants of the Coral Islands are in a state but little removed from starvation, the chiefs alone having a bare sufficiency of food—all the men of lower caste being frequently reduced to a single cocoa-nut amongst three or four for the day." Cannibalism and infanticide prevail to a fearful extent, which the captain attributes wholly to the want of food. One day before his arrival at one of the islands a feast had been held, at which sixteen enemies, killed three days before, had been devoured.

Electoral League.—A meeting was held on Friday evening, at Mr. Pearce's Room, Tacket-street, Ipswich, convened by circular, to receive a deputation from the head quarters of the League. There was a most respectable attendance, and several influential persons present. J. H. Tillett, Esq., and Joseph Colman, Esq., expounded the principles and objects of the League. Several questions were put and were satisfactorily answered. At the close of the meeting, a resolution was unanimously adopted, expressing the entire satisfaction and concurrence of the meeting with the objects of the League. A Committee was also appointed to carry out those objects, and will soon be in working order in this district.—*Suffolk Chronicle.*

Rugby.—Remarkable Escape.—Considerable alarm was experienced by the officials at the railway station in consequence of a report that a gentleman had thrown himself out of one of the carriages attached to the Birmingham up mail, which arrives at this station at two a.m. Upon inquiring into the circumstances, it appeared that the party in question had been sleeping, after which he awoke under the impression that one of the passengers had insulted his wife; and the gentleman became so excited that he threw open the door of the carriage, and precipitated himself on the line. He escaped with the infliction of a few bruises, and arrived at the station shortly after the departure of the train.—*Birmingham Journal.*

IRELAND.

Anticipating another scarcity of provisions, the Treasury have reappointed twenty-three of the 120 naval and military officers who served under the Relief Commission in Ireland last year, in superintending the distribution of provisions.

Deputation from the Roman Catholic Bishops to the Lord Lieutenant.—The presentation of a memorial on "the state of the country" by the Irish Catholic Prelates, has given the Lord-Lieutenant an opportunity of delivering another of those excellent exhortations which he has lately addressed with so much force and such entire impartiality to all classes that have placed themselves in communication with him. The memorial of the prelates was much more subdued and sensible in tone than has of late been usual in Irish documents, but still had too much of the old story about "relying on her Majesty's Government for relief." Lord Clarendon, in the course of a very striking reply, declared that, while the Government would feel it a paramount duty to come forward to the relief of districts where the misery may be beyond the power of local exertion, it was his duty to say that there should be much greater efforts and much better conduct in Ireland, and that much less should be expected from England, especially "when her trade and credit are disastrously low." His Excellency also expressed a hope that Parliament would adopt a measure "placing the relations between landlord and tenant upon a footing more sound and satisfactory than at present"—which may be regarded as an intimation that a measure for that purpose has been resolved upon by the Ministry. Lord Clarendon commented with severity on the conduct of many of the Irish landowners, who have contributed little or nothing towards the support of the poor, and have not availed themselves of the facilities afforded by the legislature for the improvement of their estates. "I am sure," said his Excellency, "your lordships will agree with me that the full amount of exertion which duty prescribes, has not yet been made here; and that without it, in justice to others, no general claim for assistance can be established."

Prospects of the Winter.—The approaching month of November brings with it gloomy forebodings of another season of distress but little inferior in intensity to those of the past two years. The accounts from the south and west are extremely unsatisfactory, and, if the alarm be not magnified, there is too much reason to believe that the precautions said to have been adopted by Government to check the horrors of a second famine have not been taken in vain, or without ample grounds to sustain such precautionary policy. The cry for labour comes from all quarters, the people, as in parts of Tipperary, resolutely refusing the shelter of the workhouse, and demanding employment or out-door relief; while, as to rates, the difficulty of collecting them, at least by the ordinary powers of the law, is becoming every day more serious; added to which is the notorious fact, that the peasant must this year be supplied with a substitute for the potato as an article of food, the shortness of the crop this season and consequent high price putting it as effectually out of the reach of the lower classes as it had been by the visitation of the preceding year. The condition of the north riding of Tipperary is thus sketched by the *Nenagh Guardian*:—

One-fourth of the labouring population have no employment, the gentry having no means, in fact, to give it to them—at least, on so large a scale as they did heretofore. Farmers are not giving employment, although necessary works require to be done on their farms, and reproductive labour could be made available if they exerted themselves. The pauper and the indolent and worthless tenant look for sustenance from the landlord, who is overwhelmed with taxation.

The opposition to the collection of poor-rates is spreading through the midland counties. The following is from the *Carlow Sentinel*:—

The opposition to the poor-rate in the electoral divisions of Arles and Shrule continue with unabated virulence; so much so, that the law is rendered inoperative by a movement at once general and systematic in its operations. Rescues continue to take place; magistrates grant informations against the violators of the law, who either traverse *in prox.* or rely upon the sympathies of juries interested in the success of the movement; thus, unless the Government put forth its strength and crush this opposition by the strong arm of the Executive, the Poor-law will become a dead letter, the union will become embarrassed, and the poor of the defaulting electoral divisions left to their fate.

Turning westward, the *Sligo Journal* thus treats of the condition of the people in that locality:—

We are approaching a rigorous, and, in all likelihood—as regards the unemployed multitude—one of the most critical seasons which has hitherto been encountered. The great bulk of the population are totally destitute of support, having no earthly means of supplying themselves with food, raiment or fuel. The poor-houses, if able-bodied paupers were even inclined to seek refuge in those institutions, could not contain one-tenth of the number of those able and willing to earn a livelihood for themselves and families, if work could be procured.

The Magpie and the Ring.—On Thursday last a magpie flew into the open window of a dressing-room at Skene-house, and ingeniously contrived to pick a ring, belonging to Lady Agnes Duff, from the upright stalk of a ring-stand, and fly off with it in his bill. Lady Agnes' maid, who was alone in the room at the time, and witnessed the theft without being able to prevent it, was filled with consternation. The ring, she knew, was a valuable one—worth forty guineas—and she naturally feared that the story of the magpie would hardly be accepted as a satisfactory account of its disappearance. A workman, to whom she communicated the alarm, had seen the bird fly out, and observed that it first perched on the top of a rack of wood. By great good fortune they found, on going to the place, that the ring had been dropped, and was lying on the ground. This incident will remind our readers of the dramatic piece entitled, "The Maid and the Magpie;" but they must not therefore imagine that our story is either fictitious or coloured.—*Aberdeen Herald.*

FREE TRADE WITH INDIA.

A very numerous and highly respectable meeting was held on Tuesday evening, at the Eastern Institution, Commercial-road, for the purpose of considering the expediency of adopting measures to further the accomplishment of that most desirable object, the establishment of a perfectly unrestricted trade with India. At half-past six o'clock, the chair was taken by Mr. Francis Carnac Brown.

Mr. G. Thompson, M.P., who was received with loud cheers, said that the question which he was about to bring before them was one which for many years had occupied his attention, and which he was resolved to lose no opportunity of placing in a proper light before the public. The phrase free-trade with India might lead to the supposition that the object for which they had assembled had relation solely to the commercial connexion between England and India, but he contemplated another and a most interesting purpose, namely, the putting an end to slavery and the slave-trade. That was a great evil, and he was in a position to point out a perfect and effectual remedy, as well as an easy one ["hear," and cheers]. A single glance at the origin of the slave-trade would point out the remedy for that evil. It originated in the desire on the part of the strongest to obtain by forced labour the products of the earth, both vegetable and mineral. The honourable member directed the attention of the meeting to the great importance of the cotton trade, and the immense amount of capital and labour employed in the manufacture of cotton in this country, and stated that there was no production, next to that which was the immediate food of man, in the regular supply of which this country was more interested than that of cotton [hear, hear]. We were constantly sending out immense sums to the United States for cotton, and we thus paid for the continuation of the guilt of slavery, for all the cotton was raised by slave labour. The production of cotton, as at present carried on, was a constant source of the crime of slavery, and we were every day, by the consumption of that cotton, affording an encouragement to it. England was now in a position to overthrow the blood-stained system of slavery, which was as much opposed to the enlightened principles of political economy as to the ordinances of the Almighty. England possessed in the Indian empire a boundless means of supply, and could render herself thus, with advantage to her own subjects, quite independent of slave-grown cotton—of cotton grown in a country which, while a slave breathed throughout it, he could not call a free country, still less a Christian country [cheers]. Were we obliged to be dependent on America for cotton? In a publication promulgated some years ago by the East India Company, it was stated that cotton was an indigenous production all through India, from the south to the Himalaya mountains; and that statement was made on the authority of the collectors of revenues in India. Yet with such advantages, India, now having her own manufactures annihilated, imports every year immense quantities of manufactured cotton—of cotton grown in America. Some time ago, when the Lancashire manufacturers complained to the East India Company of the small supply of cotton from India, as well as its bad quality, the company sent out to America for ten cotton planters, and sent them to India to teach one hundred and fifty millions of people the cultivation of a plant which the natives of India had been in the habit of cultivating for three thousand years [laughter]. It reminded him of a practice which the same company had formerly—they were in the habit of getting linseed-oil for painting the guns in the garrisons in India, and they obtained the linseed from Russia, had the oil expressed in England, then sent by a long and expensive route from England to India, forgetting all the time that linseed was growing spontaneously, and in the greatest abundance, in India [laughter]. In fact, it appeared from recent reports published by the East India Company, that the natives of India, from their knowledge of the climate of India, and their natural quickness, were capable of producing cotton better and cheaper than the Americans [hear]. It was quite clear, then, that the want of a proper supply of cotton from our own Indian possessions, instead of America, did not arise from any deficiency in the soil, or any want of skill on the part of the natives [hear, hear]. It could be proved to demonstration that, since the commencement of the cotton manufactures in England, a steady supply of good cotton could be obtained from India at a moderate price—at the price of 2½d. per lb. The truth was, that the ryots, the cotton-producers of India, would have been happy, even if deprived of half their crops by the East India Company, to supply the cotton, if they had not been subjected to such a number of oppressive demands by the East India Company as rendered it impossible for them to continue its cultivation with any chance of a profitable result. It was a most desirable object to put an end to the system under which the natives of India suffered, and which prevented them from supplying us with cotton, instead of allowing us to depend on the United States alone for that necessary article [cheers]. He had, he believed, shown clearly the connexion of this subject with the suppression of slavery, and he hoped that all who felt an interest in the cessation of slavery would assist him in his exertions to put an end to the system which now ground down the people of India. Was this not a question worthy of the attention of their representative, and would they not authorize him to bring it before the Legislature? ["Yes," and loud cheers]. In subsequent lectures it was his intention to show how much India had suffered as regarded other articles for the production of which that country was peculiarly calculated, and which it could export in abundance to this country if it were not for the system under which the natives of India now suffered. He was rejoiced at this opportunity of expressing fully to his constituents his opinions on this subject, which it was his decided intention to bring before the Legislature [cheers]. The hon. member concluded with proposing a resolution embodying the general principles involved in his speech.

The motion was seconded by Mr. W. Howitt, and carried by acclamation. A petition to Parliament, embodying the resolution, was also adopted.

Whittington Club.—The ordinary half yearly meeting of this club was held on Monday evening at the London Tavern, Mr. D. Jones in the chair. The report read by the secretary detailed the injury done to the building of the club by the late fire, observing that the property destroyed was more than sufficiently insured in the Phœnix and other offices, and submitting whether it would not be expedient to surrender the present building, and secure increased accommodation in a more eligible situation. This suggestion was received with much approbation, as were all others tending to increase the advantage of the club, such as the introduction of music and the establishing of additional classes for the study of foreign languages. The number of members elected to the present time is 2,956, of whom 2,184 had paid their subscriptions; while Lady Morgan, Miss Edgeworth, Miss Joanna Baillie, Mrs. Somerville, Miss Mitford, and Leigh Hunt, have been elected honorary members. The report further stated that the gross total receipts amounted to £3,259 6s., and the balance in the banker's hands to £34 6s., the difference being the expenditure; that the liabilities amounted to £1,355., against which their was furniture and fixtures which cost £2,598; and, taking their value at 25 per cent. less, would leave a balance in favour of the club of £593. This part of the report, however, was postponed for the consideration of a future meeting, a month hence, it being admitted that the accounts were incomplete, and had not yet been duly audited; and the remaining portions having been adopted, the meeting separated.

Collision on the Midland Railway.—Sheffield, Saturday Evening.—A forcible illustration of the recklessness too frequently displayed by locomotive engine-drivers occurred at the Masbro' station yesternoon. Two goods trains on the down line from Derby, one of which had left there at 9 30, and the other at 10 15 a.m., were delayed at the Masbro' station to make way for a quick passenger train then due. The 10 15 train was then shunted into a siding a mile and a half down the line, with instructions to the driver to remain there till the quick train and the 9 30 goods train had passed. Most unaccountably, however, the driver, as soon as the quick train had passed him, started his train from the siding, intending to regain the main line, and proceeded in the rear of the passenger train. Having got his train into rapid motion, the driver did the very thing he ought to have done before—he looked back for the 9 30 train, and to his consternation found it close upon him. It was too late to put back, so he dashed forward; but the moment his engine and first waggon had got upon the main line, the other engine, with its thirty loaded waggons attached, came up at a rapid rate, and ran into his second waggon at an angle of about 45 degrees, completely severing the train. The shock was tremendous. The conductors of the respective trains jumped off without shutting off the steam. The engine of the 10 15 train, with one carriage attached, dashed along at a tremendous rate. The passenger train, happily, was a good way in advance; but the guard saw the runaway engine behind, and signalled its approach at the various stations. It passed the Swinton and the Wath stations unchecked; but on arriving at the Dartfield station, one of the officers there, with a degree of courage and presence of mind contrasting strongly with the stupidity of the two drivers who had abandoned their engines, leaped upon the engine as it passed the station, and succeeded in stopping its career. Meanwhile the 9 30 train, immediately after the collision, "shouldered" the seven waggons detached from the 10 15 train, drove them out of the way, and continued its course; but fortunately it was stopped at the Swinton station. Most remarkable there were no lives lost, nor any one very seriously injured; but considerable damage was done to both the trains, and especially to the detached engine. Had either of them been passenger trains, the consequence must have been terrific. The next passenger train downwards was delayed an hour and a half, till the line could be cleared. The conductors of the trains, who have been guilty of such a gross dereliction of duty, were taken into custody and sent off to Derby, to be dealt with as the Board of Directors might think fit.

The Municipal Elections took place on Monday, but judging from the reports that reached London from the provinces very little interest was excited by an occasion that some years since was marked by a party struggle in every country town. At Liverpool the retiring councillors this year were sixteen; of these thirteen were Tories, and three Liberals. Of the sixteen there stood again ten; and the result of the polling was as follows:—Tories, thirteen; Reformers, three. Twelve wards were contested, but the election excited very little interest. At Birmingham the municipal election passed off quieter than has ever before been known. Sixteen councillors retired, but three of the wards only were contested, and in these not the slightest political feeling was displayed; indeed, to a great extent, municipal honours are, and are likely to be even more so, at a discount here. Three-fourths of the newly-elected councillors are Liberals. In Ipswich and Colchester the Liberals were successful.

New Bishops for India.—It is contemplated to apply the principle of subdivision which has recently been made in the diocese of Australia, to India, the whole of which enormous territory is under the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the four Bishops of Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, and Colombo. These four sees are to be divided, and six new sees formed, so that for the present there will be ten Indian bishops instead of four, and this number will be increased as speedily as circumstances will admit.

The Manufacturing Districts.—The accounts from the manufacturing districts of Lancashire are still of a discouraging character. The short-time system continues to increase. According to the returns on this subject we find that of a total number of 857 mills, which last year were employing 155,208 individuals, 300 only, with 147,259 hands, are in full work, whilst 370 mills, with 75,707 hands, are on *short* time, and 108 mills, with 24,202 hands, have entirely ceased running! The attempt to cause a general cessation of labour appears to have failed, and the whole number of mills on strike is set down at 40, with 9,000 hands.

[Advertisement.]—Galvanism.—"We hold it a positive duty to call attention to the extraordinary cures lately effected by Mr. Halse, London, by the means of Galvanism. A detail of these may be seen in a clever pamphlet on the subject, lately published by the Practitioner himself; but we are enabled to corroborate the most essential part of these statements by the fact of having ourselves undergone the operations, the process of which is no way disagreeable, while the effect is equally astonishing and complete. In asthma, more especially, the power of Galvanism, properly applied, are wonderful."—*Court Journal.*

GLEANINGS.

There are 202 Insurance Offices now in existence in Great Britain.

The children in the Female Ragged School at Edinburgh have worked a very elegant bed coverlet for Mr. T. Guthrie, the eloquent advocate of such institutions.

Query for an Irish M.P.—It's all very well to cry "Tenant Right," but what's to be done if the tenant *can't* write?

A Literary Mystery.—The *Philadelphia Chronicle* says that a professor arrived in that city, lately, with the mysterious initials, "D.R.W.," and "Ed. E.G.," appended to his name, being "Defender of the Rights of Women, and Editor of the *Equitable Guard*."

The editor of the *Musical World* proposes giving a grand concert annually, to which each subscriber to his publication will receive a free ticket of admission.

Mr. Spencer T. Hall, the poet and lecturer, who is considerably recovered from his severe and protracted illness, has been appointed secretary to the Society for Abolishing the punishment of Death, to which philanthropic object it is understood he will now devote his talents.

It is generally assented that there never was a time of severe suffering on the part of the labouring population of this district, in which there was so complete an absence of all tendency to riot or disorder, as there is at the present time.—*Liverpool Mercury.*

William Smith, the Mormon patriarch, has been some time since suspended, pending a trial on a charge of gross immorality.—*Burritt's Christian Citizen.*

Disasters (observes the *Times*) are laid upon free-trade, just as broken crockery is thrown out of sight into the first hole that can be found.

According to a circular, now in course of circulation in the Tower Hamlets, it appears that the expenses incurred in the return of Mr. George Thompson amounted to £1,341 15s. 4d., towards which the contributions and promises are only £544 18s. 4d., leaving a deficiency of £796 17s. [Surely the supporters of the hon. member, both in the Tower Hamlets and elsewhere, will not allow the blot to continue.]

It is purposed to establish ragged schools for Dumfries and Maxwelltown.

The *Globe* proposes that churches should give shorter services on Sundays, and more of them, beginning at seven or eight in the morning, and ending at seven or eight in the evening, and thereby enabling all classes to attend one or the other of the services.

Our Parisian dandies (says the correspondent of the *Edinburgh Register*), male and female, have hit upon a singular winter costume. The women wear plaid shawls and dark green gloves—the men white great coats and gloves of the same hue. It is impossible to conceive anything more awfully ugly than the gloves.

The Game-laws.—In our county sessions calendar this week (says the *Nottingham Review*), there are the names of ten prisoners for trial at the next assizes, nine of them for offences under the game-laws!

A St. Petersburg letter of the 7th of October states that the streets are already covered with snow, and sledge-parties were daily arranged. The thermometer (the preceding day) marked three degrees below zero (Reaumur's scale).

A Trap for the Discontented.—An eccentric, wealthy gentleman, stuck up a board in a field upon his estate, on which was painted the following:—"I will give this field to any man who is contented." He soon had an applicant. "Well, Sir, are you a contented man?" "Yes, Sir, very." "Then what do you want with my field?" The applicant did not stop to reply.

Lock-jaw cured by the Electric Battery.—A poor woman from the Smallburgh workhouse, who had been afflicted at different times with lock jaw, applied to Mr. Clowes, surgeon, Stalham, who advised galvanism. He operated upon her, and succeeded in fully restoring her. She can now masticate with perfect ease.—*Bury Post.*

There are three "Ragged Schools" in Newcastle (says the *Gateshead Observer*), the Gaol, the Workhouse, and the Ragged School in Sandgate. The Gaol, with its adjunct, the police, costs the inhabitants, in round numbers, £10,000 every year. The Workhouse, with also the out-door relief to the poor, costs them twice £10,000 in the same period. The Ragged School for boys has not an annual income of £100.

SILLYGISMS.

Every mail coach keeps good time;
Every good musician keeps good time;
Therefore,
Every good musician is a mail coach.

No human being is perfectly happy;
No horse is a human being;
Therefore,
No horse is perfectly happy.

Three and two are five;
Three and two are odd and even;
Therefore,
Five is odd and even.—*Family Herald.*

Some time ago the *Liverpool Albion* stated that Mr. Clark, a coloured Wesleyan minister, was not allowed a cabin passage in the ship Constitution. Of this the *New York Standard* says:—"The captain acted in accordance with the instrument after which his ship was named. 'No niggers allowed here,' is the first principle of that palladium of our liberties."

The *Western Times* informs us that the colporteur in the employ of the Town Mission and Scripture Readers' Society, has sold in Devon, in rather more than a twelvemonth, 9,400 copies of the Scriptures, and 58,000 publications of the Religious Tract Society.

We are glad to learn, observes the *Western Times*, that a second school of the kind usually called "ragged, is about to be established in this city (Exeter).

CURIOUS MARRIAGE.—A curious marriage took place last week at Voiteur, in the Jura. A blind man, more than sixty years of age, was united to a blind woman also turned sixty.

On Saturday week, the inhabitants of Edinburgh were invited, by advertisement and public placards, to a meeting "on a subject of vital importance to all," which turned out to be—the hearing one Cameron read an account of his beatific vision, consisting of a seraphic choir, amidst whom shone the form of his sainted mother, who greeted him as King of Saxony and Bavaria.

MR. BROOKE, the Rajah of Sarawak, proceeds to the seat of his government in the "Meander," 44, to be commissioned at Chatham, and commanded by the Honourable Captain Keppel.

The *Liverpool Albion* says:—"In very seriousness, much of our panic has been occasioned by lady sellers of shares and lady withdrawers of deposits from the banks."

At the Liverpool Quarter Sessions, opened on Monday, out of 118 persons to be tried, fifty are women, the recorder remarking, that such a proportion was unparalleled in any calendar hitherto printed.

PROGRESS OF BUILDING SOCIETIES.—Our readers may form some idea of the vastly extending influence of building societies, from the fact that since the 2nd of March, 1847, no less than 168 new ones have been enrolled by J. T. Pratt, Esq., the registrar for England and Wales: the number now established being 1,290.

MALLEABLE GLASS.—Professor Schonbein, who invented the gun-cotton, is stated, in the *Revue Scientifique et Industrielle*, to have, to a certain point, discovered malleable glass! He renders paper paste (*papier maché*) transparent, by causing it to undergo a certain metamorphosis which he calls catalytic, for want of a more intelligible term. He makes of this new paper window-panes, vases, bottles, &c., perfectly impermeable to water, and which may be dropped on the ground without breaking, and are perfectly transparent.—*Mechanics' Magazine.*

SHELLEY NO MATERIALIST.—But without entering on this discussion, which might lead me too far out of the track, I can say, with reference to Shelley, that whatsoever his earlier opinions might have been, he, on becoming a Platonist, firmly believed in a future state. He used to say, that "no man who reflected could be a materialist long;" and in his Essay on Poetry (though he seems in Mrs. Shelley's transcript of the MS. to have made a considerable alteration in the passage afterwards, from that originally written, which he showed to me), the words ran thus, *verbatim*:—"The persons in whom this power (poetry) abides, may often, as regards many parts of their nature, be Atheists; but though they may deny and abjure, they are compelled to serve that which is seated in the throne of their own soul;" and in his Essay on a Future State, unfortunately a fragment, he says, "The destiny of a man can hardly be so degraded that he was born to die."—*Medwin's Life of Shelley.*

NOVEL APPLICATION OF ELECTRICITY.—The *Pittsburgh Journal* has examined an invention made by Mr. Lilly of that city, in connexion with Dr. Colton, which seems to challenge attention, not only for the ingenuity which it displays, but the useful results which it promises. The machine is a small locomotive, and is placed upon a circular railroad, around which it is driven by electricity. The power is applied, not to the locomotive, but to the track, and herein consists the novelty of the invention or discovery. Two currents of electricity, negative and positive, are applied to the rails, and from thence communicate with the engine. The latter is provided with two magnets, which, by a process of alternate attraction and repulsion, drive the car over the track. A piece of lead was placed on the locomotive, making in all a weight of about ten pounds, and on the application of the battery, the machine moved with astonishing rapidity up a plane inclined about five degrees. Heretofore the propelling power has been used on the car itself—in this instance, however, the power is placed in the rails, and an engineer might remain in one town, and with his battery send a locomotive and train to any distance required.—*New York Literary World.*

BRITISH MARRIAGE-MARKET AT CALCUTTA.—Here may be seen as fine equipages as in London, for the horses and carriages are all sent out from England, at an immense expense. In addition to its being the favourite evening drive, the race-course is one of the principal auction marts, for the sale of an article of which a large supply is imported annually from England; we allude to the young ladies, who are sent out here as a mere matter of speculation, and in the regular business-like manner consigned to an agent, whose duty it is to dispose of them to the best advantage. For this purpose a carriage is kept, in which the poor girl is placed, after having been made to look as pretty as possible, and is driven about the race-course every evening until she is seen, admired, and bought by some rich old colonel, whose age would befit the character of a grandfather better than a husband. Such preposterous alliances never turn out happily, as, indeed, how should they? What thoughts or wishes can a young girl of seventeen have in common with an old man of sixty? And such are Indian marriages. The girl is perhaps considered lucky in having caught a colonel, but can she look upon him in any other light than as a person kindly provided by nature to find her with means to indulge in extravagance, and live in luxury, which she might otherwise have wished for in vain; but has it not been obtained at the price of happiness, and, what is still worse, does it not involve a temptation to crime, which is almost too strong for human frailty to withstand? So barefaced is the system pursued, that should the agent (for the girl herself is not at her own disposal) be on the point of concluding an agreement with some young man who has six or seven hundred rupees a month, and suddenly hear of an old man who has a thousand, and who wishes to become a purchaser, the first engagement is broken off, *sans ceremonie*, and the young lady's affections transferred to the new lover! By these means any girl that is not absolutely ugly, can acquire a fortune, the only stock in trade that is required being a few dresses and other vanities, and the only art being that of lolling gracefully in a carriage.—*Five Years in the East.*

BIRTHS.

Oct. 24, the wife of Mr. THOMAS WRIGHT, Baptist minister, of Lays-hill, Herefordshire, of a son, still-born.

Oct. 27, the wife of Mr. CHARLES ROOM, of Portsea, minister, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Oct. 2[illegible], in the Independent Chapel, Green Hammerton, by Mr. James Parsons, minister, Mr. HENRY HOWARD, minister, of Whittlesea, Cambridgeshire, to MARY, only child of Mr. W. POTTER, Whixley.

Oct. 23, in the Wesleyan Chapel, Chesterfield, by Mr. W. Blandy, Independent minister, Mr. CHARLES CHAMBERLAIN, of Renishaw, to Miss CHARLOTTE ROTHERFORTH, of Killamarsh.

Oct. 24, in the Independent Chapel, Paington, Devon, by Mr. George Moase, minister of the place, Mr. SAMUEL R. W. EVANS, to Miss ANN GOODRIDGE, both of Paington.

Oct. 25, at Church-lane Chapel, Banbury, Oxon, by Mr. J. Lewis, minister, Mr. THOMAS PAYNE, ironfounder, to Miss CAROLINE WHITE, of Neithrop.

Oct. 26, at the Independent Chapel, Kilsby, Northamptonshire, by Mr. J. Rhys Jones, minister, Mr. JAMES W. BATTAMS, of North Fields, near Stony Stratford, Bucks, to MARY, only daughter of Mr. S. WALL, of the former place.

Oct. 26, by Mr. W. Tarbotton, minister, in the Independent Chapel, Totnes, Mr. ROBERT ARMSTRONG, draper, of Stonehouse, to Miss MARY ASH HANNAFORD, second daughter of late Mr. G. Hannaford, maltster, of Totnes.

Oct. 27, at Westgate Chapel, Bradford, by Mr. H. Dowson, minister, J. V. GODWIN, Esq., of the firm of Milligan, Forbes, and Co., and son of B. Godwin, D.D., to RACHEL CATHERINE, eldest daughter of James ACWORTH, LL.D., President of Horton College.

Oct. 28, at Sion Chapel, Halifax, by the pastor, Mr. J. Pridie, JOSIAH EVANS, Esq., of the Heyes, Newton-le-Willows, to EMILY, only daughter of the late John HAIGH, jun., Esq., of Halifax.

Oct. 29, at the Independent Chapel, Rendham, by Mr. J. Rogers, minister, Mr. HENRY GODDARD, of Middleton, to ELIZABETH, second daughter of J. D. BRIGHT, Esq., of Saxemundham.

Oct. 29, at the Independent Chapel, Rendham, by Mr. J. Rogers, minister, Mr. JAMES ASHFORD, of Saxemundham, to HARRIET, third daughter of J. D. BRIGHT, Esq.

Oct. 30, at St. John's, Hackney, by Mr. Thomas Bagley, clergyman, THOMAS SNAPE, Esq., solicitor, of Warwick, to MARTHA WEBB, only daughter of the late John Webb, Esq., of Park-road, Dalston.

DEATHS.

Sep. 4, at Singapore, Mr. THOMAS THOMPSON, aged 29 years, the loved elder son of Thomas Thompson, Esq., of Poundsford-park.

Oct. 26, deeply regretted, aged 60, Mr. JOHN CALVERT, Independent minister, of Rheoboth Chapel, Morley, near Leeds.

Oct. 26, at Plymouth, ELEANOR, the beloved wife of Dr. PAYNE, Western College.

Oct. 27, ANN, the beloved wife of Mr. T. WRIGHT, Baptist minister, of Lays-hill, Herefordshire, and eldest daughter of Mr. John Green, Coseley, Staffordshire.

Oct. 27, Mr. SEALEY FOURDRINIER, in the 76th year of his age. Mr. Fourdrinier was one of the patentees of the paper machine, and was mainly instrumental in the introduction into this country of the present manufacture of paper.

Oct. 28, at Mill End, Herts, suddenly, Mr. WILLIAM ABBEE, aged 67, for more than thirty-six years deacon of the Baptist church in the above place. He has been blind for nearly twenty years.

Oct. 29, at Brighton, after a short illness, Miss BYNG, eldest sister of the late G. Byng, Esq., M.P.

TRADE AND COMMERCE.

Friday, October 29.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

PROSSER, THOMAS, Worcester, builder.

BANKRUPTS.

BAYNES, RICHARD, Liverpool, flour dealer, November 11 and 30: solicitors, Messrs. Cornthwaite and Co., Old Jewry-chambers, London; and Mr. Pemberton, Liverpool.

DOWSING, WILLIAM, Ipswich, Oilman, November 8, December 10: solicitors, Mr. Kirk, Clifford's-inn, London; and Mr. Galsworthy, Ipswich.

DUPOUY, FRANCOIS, 4, Cross-lane, St. Dunstan's-hill, wine merchant, November 5, December 17: solicitor, Mr. Sangster, St. Swithin's-lane.

FLASHMAN, HENRY PANNELL, Bute-street, Brompton, soda-water manufacturer, November 12, December 9: solicitor, Mr. Lewis, New Inn.

GUSTERSON, GABRIEL, 19, Paradise-walk, Chelsea, builder, November 4, December 9: solicitors, Messrs. Lawrence and Plews, Old Jewry-chambers.

HILL, JOSEPH, jun., Southampton, builder, November 10, December 8: solicitor, Mr. Braikenridge, Bartlett's-buildings, London.

JONES, JOHN, Manchester, coal dealer, November 11, December 3: solicitors, Messrs. Johnson and Co., Temple; and Mr. W. D. Pollard, Manchester.

MABBOT, JOSEPH, Milton next Gravesend, printer, November 12, December 9: solicitor, Mr. Wilkinson, Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street.

MEYER, EDWARD SIMEON, and BROWNSMITH, THOMAS GEORGE, 22, Bedford-street, Covent-garden, fringe manufacturers, November 9, and December 10: solicitor, Mr. Tippetts, Pancras-lane.

M'GEORGE, JONAS, 78, Wardour-street, Soho, ironmonger, November 4, December 17: solicitor, Mr. Goren, South Molton-street, Oxford-street.

PROCTOR, GEORGE, PROCTOR, JOSEPH, and PROCTOR, THOMAS, Rochdale, cotton spinners, November 16, December 7: solicitors, Messrs. Atkinson and Co., Manchester; and Mr. J. Abbott, Charlotte-street, Bedford-square, London.

SCALE, RICHARD BURGESS, Leytonstone, Boarding house-keeper, November 12, December 9; solicitor, Mr. Shaw, Fish-street-hill.

SMITH, PRINCE WILLIAM, Bristol, currier, November 16, December 10: solicitor, Mr. Dix, Bristol.

SMITH, THOMAS, Swineshead, cattle dealer, November 5, December 3: solicitor, Mr. W. Brown, Nottingham.

SPENCE, JAMES, Liverpool, merchant, November 11 and 30: solicitors, Messrs. Cotterill, Throgmorton-street, London; and Messrs. Fletcher and Hull, Liverpool.

STOCKHAM, JOHN, Bristol, marble mason, November 16, December 14: solicitors, Mr. Jay, Serjeant's-inn, London, and Mr. J. Crosby, Bristol.

TUPLING, JOHN, Cambridge, shoemaker, November 11, December 8: solicitors, Mr. Ravenscroft, 21, Guildford-street, Russell-square; and Mr. C. H. Cooper, Cambridge.

WAINWRIGHT, JOHN, Digbeth, Birmingham, draper, November 13, and December 4: solicitors, Messrs. Sale and Co., Manchester; and Mr. J. Suckling, Birmingham.

WALTON, BENJAMIN, Wolverhampton, japanner, November 13, December 14: solicitors, Messrs. Clarke and Sparrow, Wolverhampton; and Messrs. Motteram and Knowles, Birmingham.

WRIGHT, CHARLES, Sunderland, hatter, November 5, December 17: solicitors, Messrs. Maples, Pearce, and Co., Frederick's-place, Old Jewry, London; and Messrs. J. J. and G. W. Wright, Sunderland.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

BORTHWICK, THOMAS, Edinburgh, stock broker, November 5 and 26.

FISKEN, JAMES, and Co., Glasgow, silk mercers, November 3 and 24.

FRENCH, ROBERT and JOHN, Coltness and Whitehill, and Airdrie, wood merchants, November 3, December 1.

KNOWLES, JAMES SHERIDAN, Port Bannatyne, publisher, November 2 and 23.

MORTIMER, ALEXANDER, Aberdeen, baker, November 6, December 4.

WEBSTER, JOHN, Montrose, merchant, November 2 and 23.

DIVIDENDS DECLARED.

William Henry Cox, Belvidere-road, Lambeth, first div. of 3s. 3½d.; at 2, Basinghall-street, any Wednesday—John Partridge, Cheltenham, coal merchant, second div. of 4d.; at 2, Basinghall-street, any Wednesday—William Grieves of South Shields, grocer, first and final div. of 1s. 5d.; at 111, Pilgrim-street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, any Saturday—John Parsons, Medway-street, Horseferry-road, Westminster, baker, first div. of 9d.; at 2, Basinghall-street, any Wednesday—Thomas Bowles, Horsemonden, victualler, first div. of ½d.; at 2, Basinghall-street, any Wednesday—Henry Jones, 14, Grosvenor-row, Pimlico, and 1, Smith-street, King's-road, Chelsea, oilman, first div. of 4s. 6d.; at 2, Basinghall-street, any Wednesday—Nicholas Temperley, King William-street, City, and Newcastle-upon-Tyne, first div. of 2½d.; at 2, Basinghall-street, any Wednesday—George Burgess, Ramsgate, coach maker, first div. of 4½d.; at 2, Basinghall-street, any Wednesday—William Symonds Rootes, of Ross, Herefordshire, doctor of medicine, first div. of 4½d.; at 7, Waterloo-street, Birmingham, any Thursday—John Hollowell, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, maltster, first div. of 2s. 3d.; at 111, Pilgrim-street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, any Saturday.

Tuesday, Nov. 2.

DECLARATION OF INSOLVENCY.

JOSEPH CLARKSON, Woolwich Lower-road, beer retailer.

BANKRUPTS.

ADAMS, JAMES, 39, Finsbury-square, surgeon, November 12, December 10: solicitor, Mr. Mackrell, Lincoln's-inn-fields.

BENNETT, GEORGE, Southampton, wine merchant, November 12, December 15: solicitor, Mr. Wheelock, 10, Chancery-lane.

CHAPPELOW, WILLIAM, jun., 107, Jermyn-street, wholesale saddler, November 10, December 18: solicitors, Messrs. Lawrance and Plews, Old Jewry-chambers, Old Jewry.

COWCHER, EDWARD, Bath, apothecary, Nov. 12, Dec. 14: solicitor, Mr. Neate, Lincoln's-inn-fields, London.

COOKE, WILLIAM WALTER, Denton, hat manufacturer, November 12, December 9: solicitors, Messrs. Clarke and Co., 20, Lincoln's-inn-fields, London; and Mr. Brooks, Ashton-under-Lyne.

GARDNER, JOSEPH WILLIAM, Wootton-under-Edge, teazle merchant, November 15, December 14: solicitors, Messrs. Jones and Co., Crosby-square, London; and Messrs. Timbril and Co., Bradford, Wilts.

HEAD, ARTHUR JOSEPH, Hammersmith, attorney at law, November 8, December 13: solicitor, Mr. Long, Old Broad-street.

HEATH, GEORGE, and DANN, GEORGE, Canterbury, drapers, Nov. 10, Dec. 14: solicitors, Messrs. Reed and Co., Friday-street, Cheapside.

LANDS, THOMAS, 98, Edgeware-road, boot maker, November 9, December 16: solicitor, Mr. Lambert, Gray's-inn.

LEWIS, MORGAN, Oxford-street, linen draper, Nov. 10, Dec. 14: solicitors, Messrs. Reed and Marsden, Friday-street.

NEWSOM, WILLIAM, late of Calcutta, merchant, but now of 32, St. Mary-axe, City, commission agent, Nov. 10, Dec. 17: solicitors, Messrs Lawrence and Co., 14, Old Jewry-chambers.

PAGE, JOSEPH HENRY, late of Queen-street, Cheapside, but now of Pancras-lane, City, auctioneer, November 12, December 10: solicitor, Mr. Holt, Chatham-place, Blackfriars.

ROBINSON, JOHN, Bradford and Keighley, worsted spinner, November 25, December 16: solicitors, Mr. Nethersole, New-inn, London; and Messrs. Harle and Clarke, Leeds.

SANDEMAN, GEORGE, 2, York-street, Southwark, ironmonger, November 11, December 17: solicitor, Mr. J. H. Fitch, Union-street, Southwark.

SPICER, JOHN HENRY, Wandsworth, paper maker, Nov. 10, Dec. 14: solicitors, Messrs. Tucker and Co., Sun-chambers, Threadneedle-street.

SWAINSON, CHARLES LOWE, and BIRCHWOOD, JOHN, Manchester, manufacturers, November 12, December 10: solicitors, Messrs. Worthington and Co., Manchester; and Mr. J. E. Fox, Finsbury-circus, London.

TERRY, JOHN, Bath, ironmonger, Nov. 10, Dec. 14: solicitors, Mr. Physick, Bath; and Messrs. Frankham and Co., Basinghall-street.

TURNER, ROWLAND, Old Cavendish-street, Marylebone, Nov. 12, Dec. 15: solicitors, Messrs. Wood and Fraser, 78, Dean-street, Soho.

WILDERS, HENRY, Uttoxeter, farmer, November 13, December 14: solicitors, Mr. A. Welby, Uttoxeter; and Mr. T. S. James, Birmingham.

WILKINS, WILLIAM, and EVANS, JOHN EVERETT, Trowbridge, woollen drapers, November 19, December 15: solicitor, Mr. Teague, Crown-court, Cheapside.

WRIGHT, JOHN, Pendleton, dyer, November 15, December 6: solicitors, Mr. H. Walker, 5, Southampton-street, Bloomsbury; and Messrs. J. and B. Whitworth, Manchester.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

ANDERSON, JAMES, late of Edinburgh, but now of Glasgow, civil engineer, November 6, 27.

DUNLOP, JAMES, Glasgow, merchant, November 4, 25.

GRAHAM, ALEXANDER, Glasgow, baker, November 8, 29.

KILGOUR, ADAM, and LEITH, WILLIAM, Glasgow, merchants, November 5, 26.

M'DONALD, ALEXANDER, Kirkintilloch, baker, November 4, 25.

MORTON, JAMES, Glasgow, wood merchant, November 5, 26.

SEMPLE, THOMAS, Dalquhern, carter, November 6, 30.

THOMPSON, ARCHIBALD, late of Glasgow, cabinet maker, November 2, 26.

DIVIDENDS.

John Massey, Eutruria, gas fitter, first div. of 3s. and second div. of 1½d.; at 13, Waterloo-street, Birmingham, any Thursday—Henry Dunington, Nottingham, glove manufacturer, first and second divs. of 1s. 9d. and 6½.; at 13, Waterloo-street, Birmingham, any Thursday—James Tyler, Worcester, hop merchant, first div. of 4s.; at 13, Waterloo-street, Birmingham, any Thursday—John Beddleton Morris, Kingston-upon-Hull, boot and shoe maker, first div. of 2s. 6d.; at 4, Quay-street, Parliament-street, Hull, any Tuesday—Ayshford Wise, Woolborough, Nicholas Baker, Newton Bushel, and William Searle Bentall, Totnes, bankers, second div. of 1s. (in addition to 5s. previously declared); at Paul-street, Exeter, any Tuesday after November 23.

BRITISH FUNDS.

	Wed.	*Thur.*	*Fri.*	*Sat.*	*Mon.*	*Tues.*
3 per cent. Consols ..	82⅜	82⅛	81	80⅜	82	82
Ditto for Account....	83	82⅛	81⅛	81⅜	82⅛	82
3 per cents Reduced..	81⅛	81⅛	80⅛	79⅜	80⅛	81⅜
New 3½ per cents.....	82⅜	82⅛	81⅛	81	81⅛	81⅜
Long Annuities	8⅛	8⅛	8⅛	—	8⅛	8⅜
Bank Stock.....	187	185	183	185	185	183
India Stock.....	228	228	—	—	—	228
Exchequer Bills.	15 dis	16 dis	22 dis	15 dis	19 dis	19 dis
India Bonds	—	—	—	—	28 dis	33 dis

FOREIGN FUNDS.

Belgian	87	Mexican	17
Brazilian.....	83	Peruvian	34½
Buenos Ayres	37½	Portuguese 5 per cents..	81
Columbian.....	16	Ditto converted.....	20
Danish.....	79	Russian	107½
Dutch 2½ per cents.....	53	Spanish Active	20
Ditto 4 per cents	81	Ditto Passive	4⅛
French 3 per cents	77½	Ditto Deferred	17⅛

RAILWAY SHARES.

Birmingham & Gloucester	123	London & Croydon Trunk	—
Blackwall	5	London and Greenwich	—
Bristol and Exeter	62	Manchester and Leeds	—
Eastern Counties	15½	Midland Counties	107
Eastern Union	50	Ditto New Shares	—
Edinburgh and Glasgow	48	Manchester and Birming.	—
Great North of England..	216	Midland and Derby	81
Great Western	90	Norfolk	87
Ditto Half	55	North British	24
Ditto Fifths	21	South Eastern and Dover	26
London & North-Western.	149	South Western	54
Ditto Quarter Shares	29	York and Newcastle	30
London and Brighton	39	York and North Midland	69

MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, Nov. 1.

Our supply of Wheat from the home counties was moderate this morning, and sold readily at first of the market, 2s. per qr. higher than on Monday last, but was duller towards the close. Foreign Wheat was held at the same advance, but sales could not be made upon higher terms than last week, and there was not much doing. Barrel Flour 6d. to 1s. per barrel dearer, without much demand. Barley, Malt, Beans, and Peas without alteration. The Oat trade was slow, but prices much the same as last week. Maize quite as dear. Linseed Cakes unaltered.

	s.	s.		s.	s.
Wheat, Red.....	41	to 49	Peas, Hog	40	to 42
Fine	41	.. 50	Maple.....	42	.. 44
White	41	.. 44	Boilers.....	50	.. 52
Fine	46	.. 56	Beans, Ticks.....	35	.. 37
Flour, per sack (Town)	40	.. 45	Pigeon	48	.. 50
Barley	27	.. 34	Harrow	38	.. 46
Malting.....	31	.. 33	Oats, Feed.....	21	.. 23
Malt, Ordinary	63	.. 66	Fine	24	.. 28
Pale	54	.. 62	Poland.....	22	.. 27
Rye	32	.. 35	Potato	24	.. 26

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR OCT. 29.			AGGREGATE AVERAGE OF THE SIX WEEKS.		
Wheat	55s.	2d.	Wheat	53s.	10d.
Barley	33	7	Barley	32	4
Oats	23	4	Oats	22	10
Rye	38	0	Rye	34	5
Beans	47	1	Beans	44	9
Peas	47	9	Peas.....	44	6

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, Nov. 1.

Although the attendance of both town and country buyers was good, the Beef trade was in a very inactive state, at a decline in the quotations paid on this day se'nnight, of from 2d. to 4d. per 8 lbs., and a clearance of the inferior sorts was not effected. The highest general figures for the best Scots ruled from 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d. per 8 lbs. With Sheep we were heavily supplied, the time of year considered, owing to which, and the dulness of the trade in the dead

markets, all breeds moved off slowly, at a fall in last week's currencies of 2d. per 8 lbs. The very primest old Downs sold at 5s. per 8 lbs. Several larger droves were not disposed of at the close of business. Notwithstanding the supply of Calves was small, the Veal trade was in a sluggish state, at but little, if any, variation in prices. Prime small Pigs moved off freely, at fully previous rates; otherwise, the Pork trade was in a very inactive state, yet prices were supported.

Price per stone of 8lbs. (sinking the offal).

Beef.....	3s. 0d. to 4s. 8d.		Veal.....	3s. 8d. to 4s. 8d.	
Mutton.....	3 6 .. 5 0		Pork.....	4 0 .. 5 2	

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

	Beasts.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
Friday..	1,482	6,550	318	370
Monday..	4,576	27,660	126	433

NEWGATE and LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, Nov. 1.
Per 8lbs. by the carcase.

Inferior Beef	2s. 6d. to 2s. 8d.		Inf. Mutton	3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.	
Middling do	2 10 .. 3 2		Mid. ditto	3 10 .. 4 2	
Prime large	3 2 .. 3 4		Prime ditto	4 4 .. 4 8	
Prime small	3 6 .. 3 8		Veal	3 6 .. 4 6	
Large Pork	4 0 .. 4 8		Small Pork	4 10 . 5 2	

SEEDS, LONDON, Monday.—Nothing of interest transpired in the Seed trade. There was more Canary offering, and the late advance was not supported. Quotations of other articles remained nominally as on this day week.

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Monday.—We have passed another week without improvement in markets or prospects. Of Butter, notwithstanding a fair and steady consumption, our dealers have operated with extreme caution, and the business transacted in all kinds of Irish on board and landed, since our last, has been of the most trivial character at about the following quotations, viz.:—Carlow from 88s. to 96s.; Waterford, 84s. to 88s.; Cork, 88s. to 90s.; Limerick, 84s. to 88s.; Sligo, Tralee, &c., 82s. to 84s. per cwt. landed, and in proportion on board.——Foreign.—With a limited and inactive demand prices ruled as in kind and quality from 80s. to 104s. per cwt. For Bacon the demand has been for the most part confined to new singed sides in retail quantities to supply immediate wants at 62s. to 66s. per cwt. landed, as in quality and size, and next to nothing done in old. Bale and Tierce Middles have not increased in demand, prices nominally from 50s. to 64s. per cwt. Hams, 50s. to 76s., and very difficult to sell. Lard not so freely sought after; prices have declined for bladdered to 84s. to 90s., kegs to 60s. to 70s. per cwt.

BREAD.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 7½d. to 8d.; of household ditto, 6d. to 7d. per 4lbs. loaf.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday.—Our market remains without any material alteration. Fine samples continue in steady demand, at firm rates, but inferior qualities are dull of sale, at about the currency of last week.—Duty, £205,000.

WOOL, CITY, Monday.—The imports of Wool into London, last week, were 503 bales, of which 170 were from Van Dieman's Land, 122 from South Australia, 98 from the Cape of Good Hope, 64 from Monte Video, and the rest from Germany. The public sales of wool have been proceeding daily since our last, and have gone off but indifferently, a good deal being withdrawn. The amount of business in British Wool has been almost nominal. The stocks on hand are small for the time of year. The trade in all its branches continues firm, and the state of the money market has not produced any failures.

TALLOW, LONDON, Monday.—During the past week this market has been in a very inactive state, and large buyers have purchased on lower terms. The scarcity of money is operating very injuriously to the trade. P.Y.C. on the spot is 44s. to 45s. 3d., and for delivery 43s. 6d. to 44s. 3d. per cwt. Home make 45s. 6d. to 46s. net cash. Rough fat, 2s. 7½d. per 8lbs.

HIDES, LEADENHALL.—Market hides, 56lb. to 64lb., 2½d. to 2⅝d.; ditto, 64lb. to 72lb., 3d. to 3½d.; ditto, 72lb. to 80lb., 3⅝d. to 3⅞d.; ditto, 80lb. to 88lb., 4d. to 4¼d.; ditto, 88lb. to 96lb., 4⅜d. to 5d.; ditto, 96lb. to 104lb., 5¼d. to 5½d.; Calf-skins, each, 4s. 6d. to 6s. 6d.; Horse hides, 13s.; Polled Sheep, 5s. 6d. to 6s. 6d.; Kent and Half-breds, 4s. 8d. to 5s. 6d.; Downs, 4s. to 4s. 6d.; Shearlings, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 8d.; Lamb Skins, 1s. 7d. to 2s. 6d.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET—FRIDAY.

	Bales.
Taken on speculation this year	281,530
" " 1846	415,730
Stock in Liverpool the 31st December, 1846	438,970
" " " 1845	885,480
Forwarded unsold this year	31,636
Ditto, last year	34,840
Decrease of import at Liverpool in 1847	122,224
Decrease in stock, as compared with last year	153,400
Quantity taken for consumption this year	856 500
" " " 1845, same period	1,267,900
Decrease of quantity taken for consumption	405,400

SATURDAY.—We have had a flat market in Cotton to-day, the sales being 2,200 bales, 300 of which were for export. Prices are drooping.

MONDAY.—The Cotton Market is still dull, but we cannot report any further decline in prices. The transactions to-day are put down at 2,000 to 2,500 bales. There cannot be any great improvement in the demand for Cotton, or the value thereof, while the state of trade throughout the manufacturing districts of Lancashire continues to discourage it.

HAY, SMITHFIELD, Oct. 30.—At per load of 36 trusses.
Meadow ..... 50s. to 73s. | Clover ..... 70s. to 95s.
Straw ..... 28s. .. 32s.

COAL EXCHANGE, Oct. 29.
Hetton's, 20s. 9d.; Braddyll's Hetton's, 20s. 6d.; Lambton's, 20s. 3d.; Hudson's Hartlepool, 21s. 0d.; West Hartley's, 19s. 9d. Ships arrived during the week, 519.

THE COLONIAL MARKETS—Tuesday Evening.

SUGAR.—At public sale, 130 hhds. Barbadoes sold at former rates; middling to good fetched 38s. 6d. to 42s. 6d., fine 43s. to 46s. per cwt. The trade brought 1,000 hhds. and tierces. There was more business doing in the refined market: standard lumps selling at 52s. 6d. to 53s., and brown grocery at 51s. 6d. to 52s. per cwt.

MOLASSES.—326 casks Mauritius offered at public sale were withdrawn.

COFFEE.—8,000 bags Costa Rica at auction sold at a decline of 2s. to 3s. per cwt.; ordinary fetched 26s. to 27s., good ordinary 27s. 6d. to 29s. 6d., fine ordinary 30s. to 32s., fine fine ordinary 33s. to 38s. 6d., low middling 48s., good middling 55s. 6d. per cwt.

TEA.—The deliveries are 490,000 lbs. Prices are firm, but not higher.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

NONCONFORMISTS OF GREAT BRITAIN.

On the 1st of November was published,

THE PROTESTANT DISSENTER'S ALMANACK for 1848, which, though published at Threepence, is got up in a style worthy the great cause it advocates. Besides the Calendar, and other matters pertaining to Almanacs, it contains Sixteen Original Articles, exhibiting the evils of the State Church system, and developing the principles of those who are opposed to all State endowments for religious or ecclesiastical purposes. It also records the opinions and promises of members of Parliament as to such endowments, Church-rates, &c.; and a mass of Denominational Statistics, and other useful information.

London: JOHN SNOW, 35, Paternoster-row.

BAYLY'S PATENT CEMENTED TOOTH BRUSHES!!—The reputation of these being so well established, it is only necessary to state they may be obtained of G. P. Bayly, 146, Fenchurch-street, London, and of most respectable Chemists and Druggists, 1s. each; or sent to any part of the kingdom, on receipt of 13 postage stamps. In ordering, please to state whether very hard, hard, medium, soft, or a very soft, texture of bristle is preferred.

This being the only Tooth Brush for which a patent has been obtained, the Patentee cautions Chemists, Druggists, &c., against selling any brush professing it to be secured by cement, as they are liable to an action for infringement. Every genuine brush is stamped with the royal arms, and "Bayly, Patentee."

THE TEA ESTABLISHMENT, 8, LUDGATE-HILL.
SIDNEY & COMPANY, Proprietors.

THE rapidly progressive increase in the consumption of Tea and Coffee is one of the pleasing features of the age. The people, abstaining to a considerable extent from the indulgence of intoxicating liquors, more especially from ardent spirits, have become thoughtful, the nation energetic and powerful.

The very interesting statistical accounts published by order of the House of Commons at once show that both Tea and Coffee are comparatively of modern use in these kingdoms, and that only within the last few years have they become the ordinary beverage of the people. They are no longer received as luxuries attainable by the wealthy, but aided by the wisdom of the Legislature in throwing open the markets of the East, prices have been brought within the range of all classes of the community.

The Customs' duties on Coffee were very considerably lowered in the celebrated Tariff Bill of Sir Robert Peel in 1842; and it is gratifying to know that the revenue has been benefited by such reduction, and the consumption, from 28 million pounds in 1842, increased to upwards of 36 million pounds in 1846.

The duties levied upon Tea are enormous. In the past year this article alone yielded the sum of £5,110,897 15s. 9d. to the revenue.

It is the prevailing opinion, that if Parliament on its assembling should reduce the Tea Duties to one-half their present rate (and the Select Committee appointed by the House of Commons recommend the adoption of such a measure), the consumption would be so vastly augmented as to fully yield an equivalent revenue to that hitherto derived from this source; and by thus cheapening an article so generally esteemed, extend the comfort and social habits of the community.

The system of our business has been uniform. We have ever been actuated by the principles of fair dealing, in meeting the altered circumstances of the markets as they arise. This course has been appreciated by a discerning public; and we gratefully acknowledge a large share of confidence and patronage.

The present year's importation of Tea is likely to be very large. And this circumstance has had a marked effect upon the value of all descriptions; which, added to the derangement of the Money Market, has tended to depreciate prices below all former precedent.

COFFEE.—The importation is an average one, the quality good, prices low.

We invite attention to the following quotations:—

	Previously sold at per lb.	Present price per lb.
BLACK TEAS.	s. d.	s. d.
The Choicest Imperial Souchong	5 8	5 4
The Finest Pekoe Souchong	5 4	5 0
The very Finest Lapsang Souchong	4 10	4 8
The Finest Congou wiry Blackish Leaf Full Rich Pekoe Souchong Flavour	4 6	4 4
The Fine Congou, Pekoe Souchong Kind	4 2	4 0
The Strong Congou, wiry Blackish Leaf	3 10	3 8
The Good Strong Congou	3 6	3 4
GREEN TEAS.		
The Finest Gunpowder, full Powtizan flavour	7 6	7 0
The Superfine Gunpowder, bright pearly leaf	7 0	6 6
The Fine Gunpowder, small, close-twisted leaf	6 6	6 0
The Fine Gunpowder, rich burnt flavour	6 0	5 6
The Good True Gunpowder	5 6	5 0
The Superfine Imperial (very choice)	5 6	5 0
The Fine Imperial, delicate Hyson flavour	5 0	4 6
The Finest Young Hyson, or true Ouchain	6 6	6 0
The Fine Ouchain, close wiry leaf	6 0	5 6
The very Fine Young Hyson, Cowslip Flavour	5 4	5 0
The Superfine Flavoured Young Hyson	5 0	4 8
The Young Hyson	4 4	4 0
The Choice Cowslip Hyson	6 6	6 0
The Superfine Hyson	6 0	5 6
The very Fine Hyson	5 4	5 0
The Fine Hyson, fresh and full flavour	4 8	4 6
The Good Hyson	4 4	4 0
The Fine Hyson Kind	4 0	3 8
COFFEES.		
For the very Finest Mountain Flavoured Jamaica	2 0	1 10
For Choice Old Mocha	1 10	1 8
The Fine Cuba	1 10	1 8
The Finest La Guayra	1 8	1 6
The Superfine Costa Rica	1 6	1 4
The Fine Plantation Ceylon	1 4	1 2
The Good Ceylon	1 2	1 0

SIDNEY and COMPANY, Tea Importers,
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TO THE LADIES.
PATRONIZED BY THE QUEEN.

ATKINSON and BARKER'S ROYAL INFANTS' PRESERVATIVE is a safe and agreeable medicine, renowned for its efficacy in preventing or removing the disorders to which infancy is liable, affording instant relief in convulsions, flatulency, affections of the bowels, difficult teething, the thrush, rickets, measles, hooping cough, cow-pox, or vaccine inoculation, &c., and may be given immediately after birth. In short, whether this medicine enters the palace or the cottage, the proprietor feels an honest conviction of its power to assuage maternal pain for infant suffering—to convert that pain into gladness, that suffering into balmy repose. For adults, in English cholera, spasms, pain in the bowels, and other complaints of the intestines, owing to wind, or obstructions in the digestive organs, this medicine will be found of infinite service. It is highly recommended by the faculty.

Prepared and sold by Robert Barker, 34, Greengate, Salford, Manchester (Chemist to her most gracious Majesty Queen Victoria), in bottles at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d. The 4s. 6d. contains seven times, and the 2s. 9d. three and a half times the quantity of those at 1s. 1½d. Sold by Sanger, 150 Oxford-street; March, High Holborn; Gifford and Linder, Strand; Henderbourck, Hackney; Clapton, ditto; Miller, Pitfield-street, Hoxton-Old-town; C. King, 34. Napier-street, Hoxton-New-town; Osborne, Bishopsgate-street; Tuck, Grove-street, Mile-end-road; Coward, High-street, Stepney; Dietrichsen and Hannay, 63, Oxford-street; Elkington, Edgware-road; Vines, Aldersgate-street; Leare, Peckham; Wilmott, Borough; Kent, Blackfriars-road; Foster, Stoke Newington; Towerzy, Glasshouse-street, Regent-street; Prout, 222, Strand; Eade, 39, Goswell-street; Shewdar, Cropley-street, New North-road; Johnston, 68, Cornhill, &c. &c. Sold by all the Patent Medicine houses and wholesale Druggists in London, York, Liverpool, Leeds, Wolverhampton, Coventry, Dublin, Edinburgh, &c.: also by all Druggists and Medicine Venders throughout the United Kingdom.

CAUTION.—Observe the names of "ATKINSON and BARKER," on the Government Stamp. Established in the year 1793.

BEAUTIFUL TEETH.

ROWLANDS' ODONTO, or PEARL DENTRIFICE. Patronised by the Queen, the Court, and the Royal Family of Great Britain, and the several Sovereigns and Courts of Europe.

A FRAGRANT WHITE POWDER, prepared from Oriental Herbs of inestimable virtue in preserving and beautifying the TEETH and strengthening the GUMS. It eradicates tartar from the Teeth, and thus lends a salutary growth and freshness to the gums. It removes from the surface of the teeth the spots of incipient decay, polishes and preserves the enamel, imparting the most pure and pearl-like whiteness; while, from its salubrious and disinfecting qualities, it gives sweetness and perfume to the breath. Being an anti-scorbutic, the gums also share in its corrective powers; scurvy is eradicated from them, and a healthy action and redness are induced, so that the teeth (if loose) are thus rendered firm in their sockets. Price 2s. 9d. per box.

ROWLANDS' ALSANA EXTRACT, for immediately relieving the most violent Tooth-Ache, Gum Boils, and Swelled Face, and which, by constantly using, prevents those maladies. In the anguish of excruciating pain it affords instantaneous relief. It is perfectly innocent in its nature, and is under the sanction of the first physicians. Price 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. per bottle.

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SIR JAMES MURRAY'S FLUID MAGNESIA, prepared under the immediate care of the Inventor, and established for nearly forty years by the Profession, for removing BILE, ACIDITIES, and INDIGESTION, restoring APPETITE, preserving a moderate State of the Bowels, and dissolving uric acid in GRAVEL and GOUT; also as an easy remedy for SEA SICKNESS, and for the febrile affections incident to childhood it is invaluable.

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Sold by the sole consignee, Mr. BAILEY, of North-street, Wolverhampton, and by all wholesale and retail druggists and medicine agents throughout the British Empire, in bottles, 1s., 2s. 6d., 3s. 6d., 5s. 6d., 11s., and 21s. each.

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W. S. GOVER, Secretary.

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IT is a FACT beyond dispute that in order to obtain really FINE COFFEE there must be a combination of the various kinds; and to produce strength and flavour certain proportions should be mixed, according to their different properties; thus it is we have become celebrated for our DELICIOUS COFFEE at 1s. 8d., which is the astonishment and delight of all who have tasted it, being the produce of Four Countries, selected and mixed by rule peculiar to our Establishment, in proportions not known to any other house.

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The rapid and still increasing demand for this Coffee has caused great excitement in the trade; and several unprincipled houses have copied our papers, and profess to sell a similar article. We, therefore, think it right to CAUTION the Public, and to state that our superior mixture of Four Countries is a discovery of our own, and, therefore, the proportions are not known, nor can it be had at any other house, and that in future we shall distinguish it from all others as

SPARROW'S CONTINENTAL COFFEE, at 1s. 8d. per lb.

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GALVANISM.—PARALYSIS.—The following is well worthy the attention of medical men (particularly those who scoff at galvanism) and paralytic invalids; it is another of those astonishing cures made by Mr. Halse. Mr. Blackwell, of Cottage-road, Pimlico, a retired builder, is the gentleman on whom this extraordinary cure was performed, and who has kindly allowed Mr. Halse to publish his case for the benefit of the public at large, an example worthy the imitation of thousands of others who have also been restored to the blessings of health by the all but miraculous powers of galvanism, when applied with an efficient apparatus. The case will scarcely be credited by a great number of readers. About three months since, Mr. Blackwell was taken from his carriage in the arms of his servant, and carried into one of Mr. Halse's operating-rooms. His limbs were so powerless that he had not the least strength in them, and was as helpless as a baby. The most eminent medical men in London had been in attendance on him, but without the least success, for he continued daily to get worse. An old patient of Mr. Halse's, who had been similarly afflicted, recommended galvanism to him, informing him of the wonderful effects it had had on himself. He now decided on trying this remedy, and purchased from Mr. Halse one of his ten guinea apparatuses. On Saturday Mr. Halse was delighted to see his patient descend from his carriage and walk into his house, without the least assistance, informing him that he could now walk several miles without any help whatever. Ye revilers of Galvanism! what say ye to this?

GALVANISM.—Invalids are solicted to send to Mr. W. H. Halse, of 44, Finsbury-circus, Finsbury-square, London, for his Pamphlet on Medical Galvanism, which will be forwarded free on receipt of two postage-stamps. They will be astonished at its contents. In it will be found the particulars of cures in cases of asthma, rheumatism, sciatica, tic douloureux, paralysis, spinal complaints, headache, deficiency of nervous energy, liver complaints, general debility, indigestion, stiff joints, all sorts of nervous disorders, &c. Mr. Halse's method of applying the galvanic fluid is quite free from all unpleasant sensation; in fact, it is rather pleasurable than otherwise, and many ladies are exceedingly fond of it. It quickly causes the patient to do without medicine. Terms, one guinea per week. The above Pamphlet contains his Letters on Medical Galvanism.

HALSE'S PORTABLE GALVANIC APPARATUS.—(From the *Wesleyan* of March 10.)—"That Mr. Halse stands high as a medical galvanist, and that he is generally considered as the head of his profession, are facts which we have long known; but we did not know until very recently that he had brought the galvanic apparatus to such a high state of perfection that an invalid may galvanise himself with the most perfect safety. We happen to know something of galvanism ourselves, and we can truly say that his apparatus is far superior to anything of the kind we ever beheld. To those of our invalid friends, therefore, who may feel desirous of testing the remedial powers of galvanism we say, apply at once to the fountain head. To secure beneficial results it is necessary, as we can from experience assert, to be galvanised by an apparatus constructed on the best principles: for although the sensation experienced from the small machines of the common construction during the operation is very similar to that experienced by Mr. Halse's machines, yet the effects afterwards produced are vastly different, the one producing a feeling of exhaustion, and the other a feeling of renewed vigour. Mr. Halse particularly recommends galvanism for the restoration of muscular power in any part of the body which may be deficient of it."

HALSE'S PORTABLE GALVANIC APPARATUS.—The following is extracted from the *Magazine of Science* for April:—"We are continually in receipt of letters from medical men, inquiring the best form of galvanic apparatus for medical purposes, the essential requisites being constancy of action, and to be always ready for use at a moment's notice. To those medical friends we reply, write to Mr. Halse, and order one of his Portable Galvanic Apparatus, and you may take our word for it, you will find them all that you can desire. His battery is constructed of zinc and silver plates, and he has so arranged his regulating apparatus, that the practitioner may apply just what power he may think proper. It is the most perfect thing we ever beheld; and we do not see how it is possible, for medical purposes, to improve upon it. It is well known that quantity of fluid is the great desideratum in medical galvanism. Now in the small machines which are usually sold it is very evident to any one who knows anything of the principles of galvanism that the quantity of fluid which circulates through the body of the patient is next to nothing (although the shock may be very powerful); for the human body is an imperfect conductor; and it requires a series of pairs of plates to force the current through an imperfect conductor. In Mr. Halse's apparatus there are both quantity and intensity brought into action; and yet his machine is constructed in so beautiful a manner that even an infant may be galvanised with it without the least unpleasantness. As men of science, we conscientiously recommend Halse's Portable Galvanic Apparatus in preference to all others."

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